

Kinnock acts to head off future rivals

Any challenge would need backing of 46 MPs

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock scored a triumph over his left-wing opponents yesterday when he effectively ruled out fresh challenges to the Labour leadership for the foreseeable future.

A key party committee agreed changes to the election rules which will require four times as many MPs to back a candidate before he can stand.

As the current leadership contest came alive with a torrent of far left criticism of Mr Kinnock's public abandonment of unilateralism, the Labour leader and his colleagues acted to stop what they see as a damaging and costly contest by candidates who

command little support among MPs.

The party's organization committee decision to require candidates to be nominated by 20 per cent rather than 5 per cent of Labour MPs will effectively kill off any future challenge by Mr Tony Benn or his far left colleagues during the present parliament.

It means that rather than getting the support of only 12 MPs to stand as at present, a candidate in future would need the backing of 46 MPs, higher than the membership

While the public attacks on him were coming from the far left, some of Mr Kinnock's friends on the soft left were voicing private concern over the manner in which Mr Kinnock had enunciated the new position without consulting the party.

There was no immediate sign that Mr John Prescott, who is challenging for the deputy leadership against Mr Roy Hattersley, would make opposition to the change outlined by Mr Kinnock a part of his campaign.

Many MPs believe that Mr Kinnock has been bold in raising the issue at this time in a way that will enable his certain re-election as leader to be seen as endorsement for the policy reversal.

Mr Benn yesterday made a savage personal attack on Mr Kinnock over the change.

He said: "The real problem for the Labour Party is not that we have not persuaded the electorate to support our policies, but we have never persuaded our leaders to support our policies."

Mr Benn said that policy was being made at the top, making Labour like the Conservative Party, in which policy was always made by the party leader.

The organization committee backed away from making a change to party rules which would have allowed the national executive to reject endorsed party candidates if it felt their standing was "against the interests of the party."

This had been attacked by the left as an attempt to "weed out" far left candidates and MPs.

The committee, including Mr Kinnock, however agreed that the wording went too wide. The proposal will be redrafted to allow the executive to drop candidates who are in breach of party disciplinary rules, but there will be no blanket power to reject them.

Mr Kinnock, however, said that the shift delighted many of his colleagues on the centre, who believe that his words put Labour well on the way to removing one of its worst electoral liabilities.

Benn condemned.....2

Leading article.....15

of the far left Campaign Group and well over double the number who backed Mr Benn's challenge this year.

The change, which is expected to be backed by the full national executive and the annual conference, was opposed by Mr Benn and supported by Mr Kinnock at yesterday's meeting.

Afterwards the left condemned it as another example of the leadership's alleged authoritarianism, the charge being levelled at Mr Kinnock over his dramatic public shift on the unilateralist defence policy stance.

Mr Dennis Skinner, MP for Bolsover, called it a "shift towards democratic centralism." Mr Benn said: "It is intended to prevent a repetition of this year's election."

However, Mr John Evans, MP for St Helens North, who moved the change, said the present proportion of MPs required to force an election was ridiculously low. He said that anyone putting himself forward as party leader and effectively as a future prime minister should at least be able to command the support of a fifth of his colleagues.

Meanwhile the party was pondering the implications of Mr Kinnock's television remarks on Sunday in which he said there was now no need for "something for nothing unilateralism."

The shift delighted many of his colleagues on the centre, who believe that his words put Labour well on the way to removing one of its worst electoral liabilities.

Young reporters make their mark at No 10



Prime Minister's question time: from left, Stephen Fairclough, Nicola Harrison, Jessica Patterson and Luke Salkeld at No 10. (Photograph: John Rogers)

Hurd orders urgent jail riot report

Drug use link in mass breakout

By Peter Davenport and David Sapsted

An urgent report into the riot and mass break-out at a Cumbrian prison with a history of illegal drug use was ordered yesterday by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

He asked Mr Christopher Train, director-general of the prison service, for a full account of events leading up to the apparently premeditated riot by more than 100 inmates at Haverigg Prison, near Millom, and the subsequent escape of 25 men, three of whom were still free last night.

Mr Douglas Hogg, Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, disclosed yesterday that there had been drug seizures at the prison. However, the Home Office said: "There is no evidence that drugs were involved in Sunday's troubles. It is something our inquiry will look at."

The Home Office said that 35 men hearing the end of life sentences were at Millom on Sunday night when violence erupted after instructions that pin-ups and other photographs must be removed from the walls of the newly-decorated, former RAF camp.

Mr John Cunningham, Labour MP for Copeland, called for a full public inquiry into the incident. He is expected to raise the issue in the Commons today.

follow a number of serious incidents over the past two to three years, including allegations of widespread use of drugs at the prison. Fundamental and searching questions need to be asked as a matter of urgency and a public inquiry is essential", he said.

Mr Train's investigation will also study staffing levels

However, none of those serving life sentences was involved in the disorders, which resulted in damage to 28 buildings and smashed furniture and fittings in the prison hospital, two dormitories, the kitchen and administration buildings.

Several fires were also started. Mr Ian Lockwood, the prisoner governor, was still assessing damage last night in a bid to determine how many prisoners would have to be accommodated elsewhere.

Some inmates, including those involved in the riot, had already been moved to other prisons, the Home Office said.

The order to take down photographs and posters was made by the governor for security reasons in case they were used to hide any attempt to break through walls as part of an escape attempt.

The trouble started in two dormitories when inmates began rioting as a prison siren signalled an end to association at 8pm. Officers had heard that a protest against the governor's instruction was being planned but the timing and its ferocity took them by surprise.

By the time the officers and reinforcements from other prisons throughout the north of England had restored order by 11pm, groups of prisoners

had escaped through two holes cut in the 16 ft perimeter fence. Fires were raging in many of the damaged buildings.

Twelve of the prisoners were arrested almost immediately. Ten others were detained yesterday in a big search operation.

The riot and the break-out, one of the biggest in recent times, sparked a dispute between prison officers and the Home Office. The POA claimed that insufficient officers were available while the Home Office insisted numbers were up to strength.

Mr Lockwood praised the "exceptional response" of his staff to the incident. He said: "The majority of the prison is undamaged. We have not lost it and we never did lose it."

Mr Lockwood had been on leave but was called back to the prison on Sunday afternoon after a member of staff died on duty.

He said: "The problem started in two dormitories then escalated and other prisoners rose to the occasion. It escalated to major damage in those dormitories which led to those particular prisoners gaining their freedom, escalating the action with other prisoners, resulting in them running in a fairly un-

Continued on page 24, col 5

Ink blots and tough questions

By Alan Hamilton

Tough questioning by a team of four journalists granted an exclusive interview with the Prime Minister yesterday failed to draw her on the question of the IRA shootings in Gibraltar, but left them with the impression that she was a dominating personality with very stiff hair. They in turn left her with an ink blot on her settee.

The four interviewers, aged between nine and 14, represented the weekly children's newspaper *Early Times*, and were chosen from several hundred young readers who submitted questions they would like to ask Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

After their 75-minute interview in the White Room at 10 Downing Street, which continued well beyond its scheduled time, the interviewers complained that on several questions the Prime Minister had either refused a direct answer or had blinded them with statistics.

At a press conference with adult reporters afterwards, Nicola Harrison, aged 13, said she had put it to Mrs Thatcher that the Army had "gone over the top" in shooting dead three suspected IRA terrorists in Gibraltar.

"She put up her hand and

Continued on page 24, col 1

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Portfolio, page 31

INSIDE

MPs to vote on hanging

The House of Commons will debate the restoration of the death penalty today when a vote is taken on an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill.

Supporters of the amendment, which would give juries the option to recommend hanging for murderers, predict that there will be a large majority against them. Page 2

Morley move

Mr Eric Morley is merging his Miss World beauty contest group with Red Rose Radio, the Preston commercial radio station built up by Mr Owen Oyston. Page 25

Tate's sugar

Tate & Lyle has recouped almost half the \$1.5 billion (£831 million) cost of buying Staley International, the American corn syrup and food group. Page 25

Testing time

England's cricketers face an uphill battle today to avoid an innings defeat in the first Test match against West Indies at Trent Bridge. Page 46

TIMES FOCUS

The Institute of Personnel Management is celebrating its 75th anniversary with an air of self-assurance and authority greater than at any time in its history. A Special Report investigates. Pages 26, 21

INDEX

Home News	2, 5
Overseas	7-10
Business	25-31
Sport	42-46
Appointments	16
Architecture	18
Arts	17
Births, marriages, deaths	17
Church	27
City diary	16
Court	22, 24
Crosswords	14
Diary	22
Entertainment	12
Erratum	12
Fashion	13
Features	12, 14
Information	27
Law Report	15
Leading articles	15
Letters	16
Obituary	14
On This Day	5
Parliament	5
Science Report	12
Technology	32, 33
TV & Radio	23
University guide	24
Weather	24

Bank of England acts again

Base rate up as pound slips

By David Smith and Richard Ford

The Bank of England yesterday led the high street banks into the second rise in base rates in the space of a few days, in response to a weaker pound and concern over overheating in the economy.

The banks raised base rates from 8 to 8.5 per cent, after a signal from the Bank of England. Only last Thursday rates were increased from 7.5 to 8 per cent.

The move brings an increase in mortgage rates closer. The Halifax Building Society, Britain's biggest, said: "We do not intend to increase our mortgage rates against a base rate of 8.5 per cent, but the Halifax will have to look again at its mortgage rates if base rates go any higher."

City analysts said that the speed of the Bank's move in raising interest rates over the past few days means that further increases are likely. Money market interest rates

are consistent with a base rate level of 9 per cent.

However, the Bank is expected to allow things to calm down for a few days before moving rates upward again, barring a sharp fall for the pound.

Sterling lost ground against the German mark yesterday.

Tony Blair.....14
Leading article.....15
Details.....25

dropping by 1.1 pence to DM3.0948. But it rose by nearly a third of a cent to \$1.8030 and the sterling index gained 0.1 points to 76.3.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, has been pleased to have the opportunity to push interest rates higher, amid concern over credit growth, pay increases, soaring house prices and the strength of demand in the economy.

But both the Treasury and the Bank of England are aware of the risks in the present situation. On one side, sterling could regain its strength of last month, forcing interest rate cuts. More worryingly, with the pound now no longer the darling of the currency markets, its fall could gain momentum, adding to inflationary pressures in the economy.

Dealers expect the Bank to mount a vigorous defence of sterling, which could push base rates into double figures, if it threatens to fall below the DM3 level.

The stock market took the news of the base rate rise, which had been expected this week, calmly. The FT-SE 100 index closed 13.5 points up at 1,832.7.

The Opposition is preparing an onslaught on the Government's monetary policy when the Commons resumes today.

Continued on page 2, col 5

Jailed Piggott is stripped of OBE

By Andrew Moger

Lester Piggott, the former top jockey serving three years in jail for evading tax totalling £3.1 million, has been stripped of his OBE.

His appointment to the order came in the New Year's honours list in 1975 for services as a jockey, but now he joins the ignominious roll call of public figures who have received awards and then

fallen from grace.

Last night the Prime Minister's Office, which had been responsible for including Piggott's name in a list agreed by the Queen, confirmed that the former jockey had been notified in his prison cell at Highpoint, nearby Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

Piggott was convicted at Ipswich Crown Court last October of fraudulent tax evasion amounting to £3.1 million.

A spokesman for the Prime Minister's Office last night stressed it was virtually automatic for annulments after prison sentences, "even when the jail term is far shorter than Piggott's and also if it is suspended".

Mr Joe Mercer, the former jockey who rode with Piggott, said: "I am absolutely shocked. He has done so much for racing worldwide. That is all I can say."

Lester Piggott: Learned of decision in his prison cell.

British contacts with Iran on Beirut hostages

From Robert Fisk west Beirut

Britain, America and West Germany have all begun direct contacts with the Iranians in an effort to free their hostages in Lebanon, according to reliable Shia and Sunni Muslim sources in Beirut.

The same sources — from Shia and Sunni political circles and from Lebanese pressure groups involved with hostage negotiations — say that the United States opened two months ago in the hope of finding a "legal" formula that would at last secure the release of their citizens in the hands of the Hezbollah (Party of God) movement. All three governments have repeatedly denied that they would ever "negotiate with terrorists".

The separate contacts are all said to have taken place in Europe. So widely are the reports now believed in Beirut that the American Embassy here has been approached by several organizations representing kidnapped Lebanese in the hope that Washington

armour which were paid for by the Shah, orders which America refused to honour after Ayatollah Khomeini took power.

Only now in west Beirut, however, are new details throwing fresh light upon the kidnap of foreigners in Lebanon over the past three years and the reasons behind their abduction.

For example: 1 Mr Terry Waite is now believed here to have been detained originally not by the kidnappers of two Americans whom he had come to meet, but by relatives of Mr Mohamed Ali Hamadi, who was arrested in West Germany four days before Mr Waite's disappearance and charged with the 1985 hijacking of a TWA jet. The Iranians suspected he was living in Israel and wanted him returned to

Assad's gamble.....14

might include other hostages in its bargaining with Tehran.

"Legal" methods of freeing the captives, according to the same sources, involve the paying of compensation to Iran and the unfreezing of assets which were closed to Tehran after the 1979 revolution which overthrew the Shah. Iran has long demanded the delivery of large quantities of American weapons and

Mohamed, of kidnapping two of their citizens.

2 A subsequent Iranian offer to the Archbishop of Canterbury to search for Mr Waite if the Archbishop found three Iranians kidnapped in Lebanon in 1982 could never have proved successful. The Iranians asked for the return of Mr Mohsen Musavi, the Iranian chargé d'affaires, Mr Kazem Akhavan, an Iranian journalist, and a Revolutionary Guard commander, Mr Ahmad Motevaselian. The Archbishop took the Iranians at their word and began his search — without realising that the Iranians believed Mr Musavi was spying for the Israelis.

The Iranians suspected he was living in Israel and wanted him returned to

Continued on page 24, col 8

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Trial halted over police evidence

Another trial involving Metropolitan Police officers collapsed yesterday as a result of discredited police evidence, the fourth to do so in a month.

Papers were immediately sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions to investigate evidence compiled by a police officer involved in a surveillance exercise into alleged prostitution in Mayfair, code-name Operation Bold Eagle.

Mr John Bevan, for the prosecution, told Knightsbridge Crown Court that no evidence was being offered against three men and two women accused of running a prostitution operation from a suite of offices.

Mr Bevan said it was the prosecution case that the officers were a front for prostitution, but he told the judge that fresh evidence had come to light last week which had been hurriedly investigated.

He said that the investigation concerned one of the original officers in the inquiry, who had apparently acted in a way "which gives cause for concern".

Mr Bevan said: "What he might have done has no direct bearing on the strength of the case against these defendants." But he added that it would be impossible for police witnesses to swear that documents had not been tampered with.

Sinn Fein man ousted

A leading IRA supporter who refused to condemn the Enniskillen Poppy Day massacre was dismissed as chairman of the local council yesterday. Mr Paul Corrigan, area leader of the IRA's political wing Sinn Fein, was dismissed as Fermanagh District Council chairman after Unionist and SDLP members banded together to oust him. He enraged the town last November when he failed to speak out against the slaughter of 11 people and the injury of dozens more. After Enniskillen, the SDLP issued guidelines to prevent its councillors supporting anyone who did not reject violence.

Universities victory

Universities have won their fight to ensure that academic freedom will be protected under Mr Kenneth Baker's education reforms. The Secretary of State for Education is understood to be prepared "to live with" the statement of principle on academic freedom written into the Education Reform Bill by the House of Lords last month. Lord Jenkins, of Hillhead, Chancellor of Oxford University and leader of the Social and Liberal Democratic peers, successfully moved an amendment that guaranteed academic freedom following the abolition of the jobs-for-life system of academic tenure.

BR rejects proposal

The British Railways Board yesterday rejected proposals from the three railway unions to invest an extra £500 million in the industry over the next 12 months. Leaders of the National Union of Railwaymen, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and the Transport Salaried Staffs' Association urged the board to create 1,500 jobs and build more rail coaches to ease overcrowding on services into London. Management rejected the demands as too costly and too inefficient. BR said the union scheme would cost the corporation an extra £184 a year.

Fears over gunfights

Police are offering a £1,000 reward in an attempt to end gun warfare between rival drug dealers in Manchester. They fear innocent civilians may be killed. Already one man has been shot dead and another seriously injured as the rival gangs clashed. Det Chief Supt Clive Atkinson, deputy head of Greater Manchester CID, said the criminals involved were from the Moss Side and Cheetham Hill areas of the city, and were fighting for control of the lucrative market in heroin, cocaine and cannabis. The reward is being offered for information leading to convictions.

Harty suffers relapse

Television chat show host Russell Harty has suffered a severe setback in his fight against hepatitis and acute liver failure. He has slipped back into unconsciousness at St James's University Hospital, Leeds, where his condition is giving doctors grave cause for concern. Mr Harty, aged 53, has been seriously ill for more than a month. A hospital spokesman said today: "Mr Harty suffered severe complications over the weekend and he is gravely ill." He is believed to have contracted Hepatitis B while travelling through Europe for his recent television series *Grand Tour*.

MP resigned to losing vote on death sentence

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Conservative MPs predicted last night that the latest attempt to restore capital punishment will be defeated when the Commons votes on the issue today.

Supporters of the amendment are resigned to losing the vote when it is taken during the report stage of the Criminal Justice Bill, although a new intake of Conservative back-benchers is believed to be more in favour of a return of the death penalty.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, who is opposed to the return of capital punishment, will come under strong pressure from Tory back-benchers for tough action on crime.

They are particularly concerned at the spread of disturbances in towns such as High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, and Croydon, East Sussex — the heartland of Conservative support in the Home Counties.

Eighty Conservatives have backed an amendment tabled by Mr Roger Gale, MP for Thanet North, calling for the death penalty to be the maxi-

Village is put in the picture

By Patrick O'Hanlon

The villagers of Cheddar, Somerset, for so long frustrated by fuzzy television pictures, have paid for and built their own transmitter.

Living in a valley, the Mendip Hills constantly blocked the news from nearby Bristol. "The only programmes we could get were from Plymouth," said Mr Peter Jones, of the Cheddar television shop, whose men are erecting stations in time for tomorrow's switch on. "All our news and weather forecasts were for Devon and Cornwall. We never knew what the weather was going to be or what was going on."

Scheme engineer Mr Michael Rutter, who installed the 20ft transmitter, said it was the first time the Home Office has issued a licence for an area already receiving television pictures. An exception was made, he said, because the villagers could not get local transmissions.

At a public parish council meeting everyone voted for an extra 1p on the rates to raise the necessary £3,000, and for a peppercorn rent the local quarry gave the council land and a hut on a hill to build the mast.

Benn and Heffer 'yearning for past'

By Tim Jones

The Labour Party now seems certain to enter the next election with its Kincock-Hattersley "dream ticket" intact after a condemnation yesterday by a top union leader of the attempt by Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer to become leader and deputy leader respectively.

Mr John Edmonds, general secretary of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, told his conference at Bournemouth: "Just at the moment when we should be concentrating on a major review of policies, two venerable gentlemen of pensionable age are stomping the country trying to persuade us to return to the manifesto of 1945. I know it sounds crazy, but that is what Tony Benn has said."

The GMB's 3,000 branches will decide between now and the Labour Party conference which candidate to back and it is extremely unlikely it will oppose an executive recommendation to back Mr Kincock and Mr Hattersley.

If, as seems likely, the executive of Britain's biggest union, the Transport Workers, decide tomorrow to back Mr Kincock, then Mr Benn, the champion of trade unionism, could arrive at the Labour conference without the backing of a single union. Even the hard left Yorkshire miners have failed to endorse him.

Mr Edmonds said that in 40 years the world had changed. "The electorate has changed. I only wish that Tony Benn would change."

Mr Edmonds said he had no doubt where the Labour Party had gone wrong in the last few years. "We forgot the dreams of our supporters. The more the trade unionists neglected the party, the more the party lost its sense of balance."

"The party spent so much time explaining how we could protect the worst off people in our country that we forgot to mention the rest. It sometimes seemed that the Labour Party was only interested in the homeless, or the very poor, or the unemployed or the radically oppressed."

He said that while a socialist party should defend those people it also carried the hopes of many millions of trade unionists who were not particularly weak, nor particularly poor, but who needed a fairer society if they were ever to grow to their full potential.

Greek controllers' strike delays holiday flights

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

As airlines gradually cleared the backlog of delayed flights which had mounted over the weekend, passengers faced a new threat of delays today, this time from Greek air traffic control.

The Greeks said they would strike for four hours from 5am today, causing inevitable delays to many early morning flights and a "knock on" effect throughout the day. They are among many sections of the Greek workforce protesting over pay while inflation soars.

By yesterday afternoon most of the weekend delays, caused by a tight control on the number of flights allowed into and out of Spanish air space, had been cleared but air traffic controllers issued a warning that holiday-makers throughout Europe faced a summer

of misery because of inevitable congestion.

"In every country in Europe we are now facing a very serious shortage of controllers and equipment to handle the growing number of aircraft," Mr Philippe Domogala, regional vice-president of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers Associations, said last night.

Typical of the lack of planning for the problems of air traffic control is in Belgium where the Government was determined that its airports, and not those in West Germany, should benefit from the boom in overnight freight delivery flights. "As a result they now have 300 aircraft movements at night and no-one on duty to handle them. They simply did not think about air traffic control at all," Mr Domogala said.

"Jams in the sky are not like those

on the roads. Motor cars can stop when there are too many of them for any particular stretch of road. Once an aircraft gets airborne, however, it cannot stop and has to keep flying until fuel shortage eventually brings it down somewhere. That is why flow control has been introduced."

"Governments have now taken the only step they can and that is to introduce flow control which only puts a bandage on the wound and does not heal it. At the same time airlines are getting new aircraft which they can lease and unveiling grandiose schemes to expand."

"Perhaps the only answer is to stop airlines from buying new aircraft like candy as they are doing today and developing their flights until they can be sure that the infrastructure is in place to cope."

Mr Domogala said that in some areas the number of flights were

increasing by 30 per cent while the number of controllers was falling and morale was slipping.

"The military are demanding extra air space across Europe for manoeuvres and controllers, whether they are in Britain, Germany, Spain, or Greece are simply being asked to do more and more work, often for miserable pay and they are simply getting fed up."

New moves to recruit additional staff and to install new equipment will take at least five years to come to fruition, by which time the problem will have become "quite terrible", Mr Domogala said.

In the meantime the controllers are becoming scared that if there is an accident the system which is causing the trouble will not be blamed but they, who have to work within the system, will find themselves in front of the judge."

British controllers predict "inevitable" delays at weekends from now on with flights to Spain, Greece, Turkey, West Germany, Yugoslavia being especially vulnerable.

Although senior air traffic control managers are to meet in emergency session next week in an effort to find a solution they privately admit that they have been taken by surprise by the enormous growth in demand for air travel and that only by capping the number of flights through flow control can a complete breakdown of the system be avoided.

Some European airlines are beginning to call for tighter controls on the development of new airlines but in Britain several small independent carriers are proposing huge increases in their schedules to take on British Airways.

Birmingham given £200m boost from EEC aid package

By Craig Seton

Birmingham is to receive £203 million in funds from the European Community over the next five years in a package of aid designed to regenerate the city's economy and create up to 30,000 jobs.

The European Commission announced in Brussels yesterday that Birmingham had been selected for the funding under an Integrated Development Operation, the first programme of its type adopted in Britain.

The operation is designed to create a co-ordinated approach for projects and programmes seeking European cash from EEC funds.

The Birmingham money will be spent on building high quality factories, reclaiming derelict land, retraining workers for high technology industry, improving road and rail facilities and altering businesses, particularly small firms, to the "unique" export opportunities which will come from the creation of a single European market in 1992.

The package of European aid for Birmingham is one of the biggest yet given to Britain. News of the announcement delighted the Labour-controlled Birmingham City Council and businessmen attending yesterday's launch of Europe 1992 week in the city.

Mr Albert Bore, chairman of the council's economic development committee, said he hoped it would have a "tremendous impact" on unemployment, which is run-

ning at more than 12 per cent in Birmingham.

He said: "Unemployment is still unacceptably high and the more we can bring about programmes like this the more unemployment will come down at a rapid rate."

The EEC funding will go towards the council's ambitious plans for total development costing more than £400 million to revive Birmingham's economy, to diversify its industry and make it a centre for high technology business and for business tourism.

Mr John Drew, head of the European Commission's London office, said in Birmingham that the money, in grants and loans, would be used particularly to help small businesses to learn about national and international markets and to retrain skilled workers in high technology industries.

More than £100 million will be spent on building high quality, low cost factories. Another £50 million will go to the Manpower Services Commission for retraining workers.

Millions more will be spent on developing the city's jewellery and Chinese quarters, completing the middle ring road and improving Birmingham New Street railway station.

Other cash will be spent on clearing derelict land, landscaping the canal network and improving tourist facilities. Most of the cash, in the form of grants, will come from

the European Regional Development Funds and the European Social Fund. Among the recipients are the city council, the Severn Trent Water Authority, British Rail, West Midlands Travel and the British Waterways Board.

Mr Drew said: "Birmingham has always done well from the European structural funds."

The primary aim of the operation was to strengthen the local economy through diversification of industry into service industries and high technology industries with particular emphasis on developing small businesses and encouraging export oriented activities.

The first £113 million phase of the funding was approved by the European regional development fund in January. The announcement of the big package comes at a time when Birmingham's civic leaders are expressing greater confidence about the economic future of the city.

A £125 million international convention centre is already under construction in the city and is due to be completed by 1991.

With the National Exhibition Centre, it is hoped that the new centre will make Birmingham one of the leading locations in Europe for conventions and exhibitions.

The centre is expected to create more than 2,000 jobs and generate £60 million for the local economy each year.

Royal garden visit



The Duchess of York admires the historic landscape gardens of Painshill Park at Cobham, Surrey, on a tour yesterday.

Poussin 'Moses' saved for nation

£7.2m time-share purchase

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

An important painting by Nicolas Poussin has been saved for the nation, at a cost of £7.2 million, after an unprecedented battle in which the national museums of England and Wales fought against the Getty Museum, of California.

The National Gallery, London, and the National Museum, Cardiff, have proposed an innovative time-share system for the painting, "The Finding of Moses".

Mr Neil MacGregor, director of the National Gallery, said yesterday: "It is a noble painting and the news is very exciting. It fits perfectly into our collection as a grand composition of the 1650s."

However, he said the arrangement with Cardiff was practical rather than preferable. "Ideally, a painting should stay in one place. This is a

solution to a problem rather than an ideal arrangement."

The acquisition is a personal triumph for Mr Timothy Stevens, the new keeper of art at the National Museum, which was involved in controversy when a group of tapestries bought as authentic works by Rubens were dishonoured.

The purchase was made possible through a multiplicity of grants. The National Art Collections Fund contributed £250,000, "for the painting rather than to either institution". The National Heritage Memorial Fund donated the National Gallery, which applied at the same time, by giving £2 million direct to the Cardiff trustees. Other grants came from the Esme Fairbairn Trust, the Moorgate Trust and anonymous donors.

The National Gallery received unspecified amounts from Mr Denis Mahon, the art historian, and the J Paul Getty Jr Fund. The latter contributed a little more than half of the cost of the painting, but Wales plans to increase its share to half.

Mr MacGregor said the arrangement did not mark a change in policy by the National Gallery, after many years of refusing to allow its paintings to travel. "It is not so much a change in policy as a change in government funding. This strategy is necessary because neither institution could afford to buy on the grants we have."

The painting was originally owned in France by the Duc de Richelieu and was bought by Clive of India in 1772. It has been in Britain since then, hanging for most of the time at Powis Castle, Powys, near Welshpool.

The trustees of the Clive estate decided to sell in 1985. Agnew's won a keen contest to market the painting and offered it for £10 million, but to no avail.

It was offered subsequently to the Getty Museum at a price lower than that paid this week. Artemis Fine Art, the London dealers, then leapt into the breach, buying the painting outright and offering it for sale on both sides of the Atlantic.



Detail from Poussin's £7.2 million "The Finding of Moses".

Howe in defence of Tory 'justice'

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday came to the Prime Minister's aid in defending the Government against accusations of materialism and lack of concern with social justice.

He said: "It is grossly unfair to accuse the Conservatives of failing to care about the social consequences of prosperity."

In a speech to the City Conservative Forum, Sir Geoffrey drew together the strands of third term Conservatism, insisting that there was a consistent philosophy behind his belief in market values. He criticised past welfare state practices for having undermined family life and social cohesion.

Coming after his reminder in a weekend interview that he retained his ambition of leading the Conservative Party, Sir Geoffrey's speech reminded his audience of the central role he had played in the Conservatives' achievements.

He said that present policies which were not yet popular would come to be recognized, like his much criticized 1981 budget, which, he said, was followed by "the longest continuous period of steady growth we have known for half a century".

He called for new "rolling frontiers" of Conservatism to tackle those parts of state activity — the welfare services — which could not be privatized in the same way as nationalized industries.

The Government's aims, he said, were to change fundamentally the relationship between government and citizens. It was to extend the boundaries of the politically possible in as big a way as had been achieved in the early years of the 1979 government.

Sir Geoffrey said the new drive was to transform welfare recipients into consumers and to oblige the state as the provider of welfare to become more closely attuned to the characteristics of the market.

"It is about extending the benefits of choice, competition and accountability to the consumers of welfare, and those of professionalism, responsibility and self respect to those who provide such services."

The Foreign Secretary set out four propositions for what he called the major breakthrough of the third term.

Recipients of state provision should increasingly have access to opportunities similar to private sector consumers and increased choice.

A distinction should be drawn between resources made available by the state and the mechanism for their delivery.

The people who took decisions about how public money was spent should have greater responsibility, greater motivation and added incentive to improve standards and be subject to increased public accountability through consumer choice.

Recent television interviews that he supports reform of Commons procedures to cater for television viewers.

The Procedure Committee is committed to a separate review into the disciplining of MPs who disrupt proceedings. This was promised by Mr John Wakeham, the Leader of the House, during the debate on the conduct of Mr Ron Brown, the Labour MP for Leith, after he damaged the mace.

Mr Brown was suspended for 20 days and ordered to pay for the repairs, but several MPs called for a 60-day suspension and the docking of his pay. Mr Brown's suspension came after incidents of misconduct by individual MPs, and the committee will examine the possibility of fining them, increasing the maximum period of suspension and withholding their pay during suspensions.

Mr Weatherill has made clear in two

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Commons to polish up image for TV

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The arcane procedures of the House of Commons are to be reviewed at the highest level before the introduction of television cameras.

The idea is to overhaul the frequently baffling way in which the Commons conducts its business so that the uninitiated viewer can readily understand what is going on.

Senior MPs believe such a review is essential if the public is not to get a misleading impression of what the Commons is about.

They fear, for example, that the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, will be inundated with letters of protest if he is seen day after day refusing applications for emergency debates on topical issues. They believe the public will not under-

stand that to grant such ritual applications would seriously disrupt the scheduled business of the House.

The Procedure Committee, set up before the Whitman recess, is expected to agree to undertake such a review at its first formal meeting a week tomorrow.

The committee, chaired by Sir Peter Emery, the former Conservative Minister, comprises a broad cross-section of MPs ranging from Mr Cranley Onslow, chairman of the Conservative backbench 1922 Committee, to Mr Tony Banks, the left-wing Labour MP.

It contains two acknowledged masters of parliamentary procedure, Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop, Conservative MP for Truro, and Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Labour MP for Worthington. It is possible that the Speaker will be invited to give evidence.

Mr Weatherill has made clear in two

recent television interviews that he supports reform of Commons procedures to cater for television viewers.

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appeal judge sentence

Secret talk of Burnage

Falklands film 'not political'

Soldiers give

Appeal rulings stop judge giving life sentence to rapist

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A rapist with an "intense and unreasoned" hatred for middle-class women was sent to a mental hospital yesterday because the judge at the Central Criminal Court said the law prevented him from imposing life imprisonment.

Judge Herrod said he thought David McCormack, aged 39, could become a killer if released. He told the court he had wanted to give McCormack a life sentence but was bound by a ruling by the Court of Appeal in another case.

He is thought to be referring to one of two Court of Appeal rape cases in 1985, (Howell or Mhatha) in which the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, made clear that where the offenders were mentally ill and a bed was available in one of the four "secure" hospitals, that option should be utilized in preference to life imprisonment.

Judge Herrod said yesterday: "In consequence of that decision and for no other reason, the course which this court has to take is to impose upon you a mental hospital order without limitation of time for the protection of the public."

Judge Herrod said: "You invaded the bedrooms of single women living alone in the early hours of the morning, attacked them in a most frightening manner and subjected them to the indignity



Judge Herrod: prevented from giving a life sentence.

and humiliation of grave sexual offences. "Your record, allied to the facts and circumstances of the present case, leaves me in no doubt that you have an intense and unreasoned dislike of middle-class women. Unhindered by authority I would have thought the only proper sentence was one of life imprisonment."

Yesterday Dr David Thomas, lecturer at the Institute of Criminology and author of the standard guide, *Sentencing Practice*, said that the judge had correctly interpreted the Court of Appeal rulings.

Some judges were apprehensive about sending offenders to the secure hospitals because they believed the

chances of their being released were greater, he added.

The difference was that the release of an offender sent to a "secure" hospital would be a matter for the Mental Health Review Tribunal, while the release of life sentence prisoners is for the Parole Board and ultimately the Home Secretary to consider.

The judge yesterday said he hoped any tribunal considering releasing McCormack, a dispatch rider, in the future would be alerted to the "utmost concern" which he felt in having to make a hospital order.

McCormack had been sent to Broadmoor for rape in 1978 — without limit of time — but doctors decided to release him in 1985.

The judge said it troubled him that if McCormack were ever freed again it might result in a woman not only being raped but being murdered.

McCormack was reappearing before the judge for sentence after being convicted by a jury earlier this year of raping a dentist and indecently assaulting a lecturer.

Both victims were aged 39 and lived in the same area of north London. McCormack was also convicted of false imprisonment, robbery and aggravated burglary.

Prosecuting counsel said during the trial that McCormack had "an obsessive dislike of middle-class women".

Crawford's Phantom takes seven awards



Phantom of the Opera composer Andrew Lloyd Webber is pictured above (right) fighting for the Tony award for Best Musical with the show's producer, Cameron Mackintosh. Michael Crawford is pictured right with his award after being named best actor in a musical.

British still rule Broadway

Michael Crawford won the award for the best actor in a musical for his role in *The Phantom of the Opera* as the British dominated the Tony awards in New York again this year with the Andrew Lloyd Webber melodrama winning seven awards including best musical.

But *Into the Woods*, a dark version of classic fairy tales, took the awards in the best original score and book categories, which went to Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine respectively. Joanna Gleason won best actress in a musical for her performance in *Into the Woods*.

Crawford, in tears after the awards ceremony on Sunday, said: "I found it a very emotional evening. I'm thrilled beyond belief that I've been accepted so graciously here in

New York. There are so many ups and downs in this business. Well, the time I have had here in New York, I know by the law of averages I must be due to be knocked down by a truck."

Lloyd Webber's *Phantom* was the runaway hit in a year which has turned out to be Broadway's best ever season. The show also won Tonys for the production's only American, Harold Prince, as best director of a musical, and for Judy Kaye for featured performance by an actress, as well as for scenic design, costumes, and lighting.

Despite Prince's 15 previous Tonys, he told reporters: "The thrill doesn't wear off." It was the second consecutive year shows born in the West End took top honours. Last year *Les Misérables* won

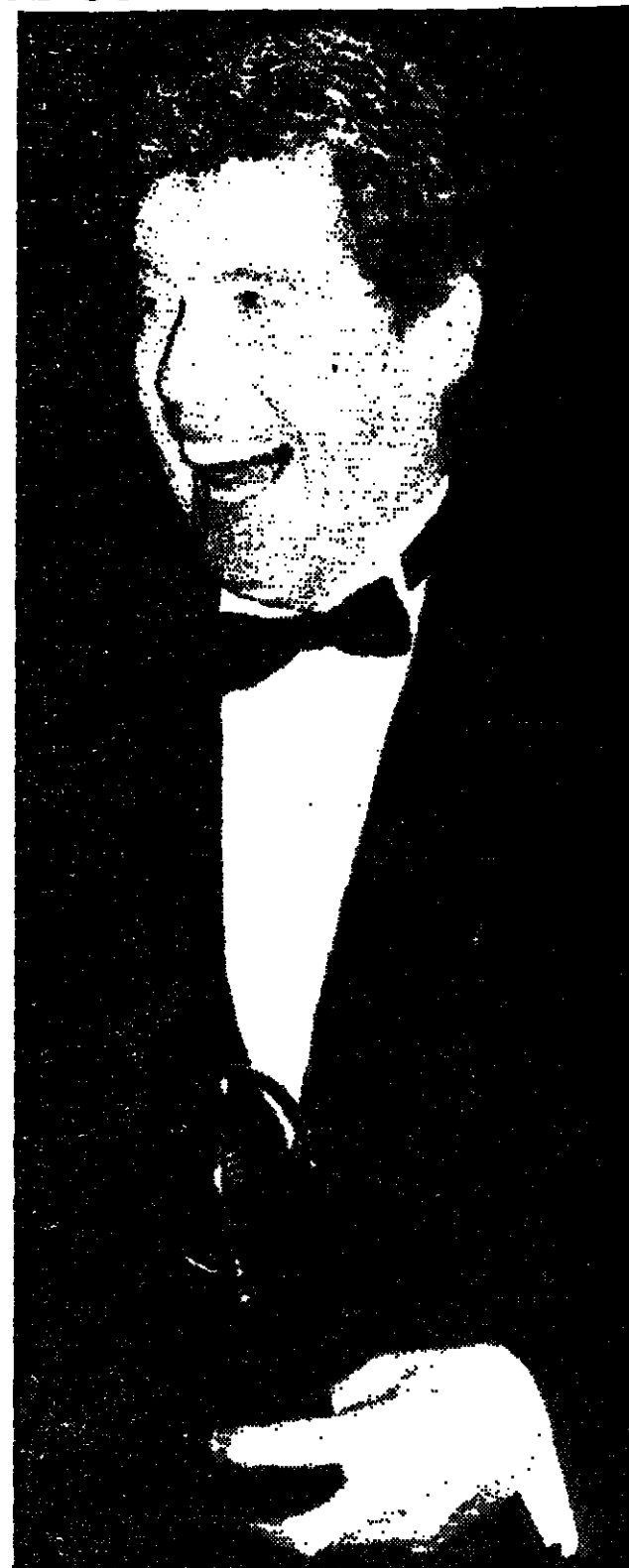
eight Tonys and *Me and My Girl* won three.

British hits now currently on Broadway include *Starlight Express* and the long-running *Cats*.

Best play honours went to David Henry Hwang's *Boys in the Trees*, about a French Foreign Service officer's 20-year affair with a Peking opera diva who turns out to be a man.

Ron Silver was named best actor in a play for his performance in David Mamet's satire on Hollywood *Speed the Plough*. Best actress in a play honours went to Joan Allen for Lanford Wilson's *Burn This*, this season's longest-running Broadway play.

A highlight of the evening was a tribute to Broadway director and choreographer Michael Bennett, who died of AIDS in July.



Dr Gough will not return

Secret talks to decide fate of Burnage's headmaster

By Ian Smith

Confidential negotiations are taking place between Dr Gerald Gough and a senior education officer to decide the terms whereby the headmaster of Burnage High School will accept early retirement.

Governors at the Manchester secondary school, where anti-racial policies introduced by Dr Gough have been harshly criticized, were told at a private meeting that talks had already taken place between the headmaster, his solicitor, and Mr Gordon Hainsworth, the city council's chief education officer.

It was disclosed that Dr Gough, aged 48, will not return to the school, from which he is absent on extended sick leave. Instead, the school's ruling body will be asked to approve the appointment of a new head teacher.

Education officials will then decide what action to take over Mr Peter Moores and Jack Hewitt, the school's deputy head teachers.

All three men are accused of adopting divisive policies in a report by Mr Ian Macdonald, QC, who led a year-long inquiry into the school after the stabbing of a pupil, Ahmed Ullah, aged 13.

The report, as yet unpublished, speaks of a paradox in which senior management and governors were wholeheartedly committed to anti-racism.

"Yet at the same time the school has been the scene of greater racial conflict and polarization for students along racial lines than any other we have heard of", it says.

Although governors are pleased that the question of Dr Gough's departure from the school he joined five years ago will be resolved, they are angry that the discussions took place without their knowledge.

One governor, who declined to be named, said the move exemplified covert tactics on the part of the Labour-controlled city council.

"That anyone should dare to allow behind-the-scenes negotiations to take place with Dr Gough without our knowledge and then present us with the facts when it is a *fait accompli* is unacceptable."

Discussions are being arranged between elected pupils, teachers, governors and parents to formulate a revised anti-racial policy for the school.

Falklands film 'not political'

By David Saped

The director of a new film about the Falklands conflict dismissed suggestions yesterday that his work was either politically motivated or "remotely similar" to last week's BBC play, *Tumbledown*.

"That was essentially a dramatized documentary — mine is fiction inspired by what happened to one soldier", Mr Paul Greengrass, the ghost writer of *Spycatcher*, the memoirs of Mr Peter Wright, said.

"The one thing they have in common is that they both try to put the Falklands War at the top of the agenda."

Mr Greengrass, aged 32, welcomes the controversy likely to surround his film, expected to be released at the end of the year and to be shown on Channel 4 in 1989.

The story is based on the experiences of Mr Philip Williams, a former Scots Guard private who was listed missing for seven weeks on the Falklands.

Wogan 'has lost common touch'

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Terry Wogan, once the darling of the radio, has lost the common touch since transferring to television, according to a report into listeners' views published yesterday.

He is seen as a star who plays up to the cameras and is rather "flash" compared to his time on Radio 2 where "he was regarded much more as a friend," Dr David Morrison, an author of the survey, said.

The report by the Independent Broadcasting Research Unit declares: "Terry Wogan has become more impersonal and unapproachable through his transition to television; a once-devoted fan described him as having 'lost contact with the audience and the ordinary people' since the transfer."

Television remains the dominant medium, although people believe radio is genuine, intimate, real and offers friendship. Listeners are also much more satisfied with radio programmes than viewers are with television shows. Interviews with 986 people

showed only 4 per cent expressed some form of dissatisfaction with radio programmes, compared with 37 per cent for television.

BBC Radio 3 and 4, the two so-called minority or specialist stations, provide greater enjoyment for their listeners than Radio 1 and 2.

Advertising on commercial radio was the only consistent complaint made by listeners. Advertisements were called repetitive, dull and irritating and constituted a "major area of spontaneous complaint."

The report found little interest in neighbourhood radio except in London.

Television stars such as Russell Grant will be featured in a series for BBC Wales intended to help people to slim. Six programmes have been planned with Heartbeat Wales, a government funded health group tackling obesity. *The Listener Speaks: The Radio Audience and the Future of Radio* (Broadcasting Research Unit, 39c Highbury Place, London N5 1QP.)

Plain wars go hi-tech

Soldiers given laser 'ammo'

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

Salisbury Plain will never be the same again. Since 1897, infantry soldiers have taken part in thousands of Army exercises across the Wiltshire countryside, using blank rounds.

But in the next two weeks, the plain will be littered with "dead" and "injured" soldiers struck down by lasers — part of a simulated battle exercise that is revolutionizing the training of infantrymen.

Yesterday saw the start of the operation, codenamed Simex 88, in which all the soldiers were armed with SA 80 rifles fitted with laser attachments. Every time a rifle was fired, an invisible low-powered laser beam shot across the battlefield towards the enemy lines.

As the coded laser pulses criss-crossed Salisbury Plain, soldiers realised they had been hit when the beams struck one of the special detector sensors concealed on their bodies, setting off a klaxon noise. It was no longer a case of "bang, bang", with military umpires deciding who should be declared dead, but "zap, zap", with the stricken soldier having no choice but to lie down to stop the klaxon sound.

Every soldier taking part in Simex 88 carries a casualty card. If struck by a laser, he is ordered to lie down and wait for an exercise controller to read the card.

"It might say he is dead, or wounded in the chest or whatever", the Army said. "Then it's up to the soldiers nearby to decide what action to take. It's all much more

realistic than just firing blanks."

The Army said that every shot fired counted because ordinary blanks in the rifle triggered off the laser beam. "A soldier can't go on firing laser beams once he runs out of blanks, so he will know what it's like to run out of real ammunition," a spokesman said.

The exercise, which will end with a laser extravaganza in front of Mr Ian Stewart, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, on June 16, involves about 1,000 soldiers, of which 800 are participating in the laser battle. The infantry is represented by the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders on the "friendly" side, and the 3rd Battalion The Royal Green Jackets acting as the enemy.



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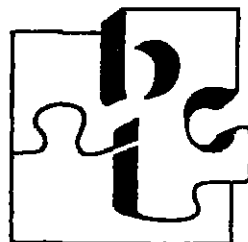
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Teesdale - Another Teesside Initiative

Last night over a hundred top industrialists and businessmen went to Number Ten Downing Street. At a reception organised through Business in the Community they heard the Prime Minister announce Teesside's latest initiative in its drive for renewal. The Teesdale Initiative - a multi-million-pound project to bring new life to both banks of the Tees. New business facilities, new homes, new specialist shops, new leisure opportunities, new roads - new jobs. An imaginative partnership between the Teesside Development Corporation, Murray International and a consortium of developers and financial institutions. The Teesdale Initiative - generating a £110 million investment opportunity. Starting in July. Another Teesside Initiative to join the compelling range of initiatives that the Development Corporation has launched during the past nine months - and in which the private sector is an enthusiastic participant. 'A Marina and Much More' at Hartlepool. The Tees Offshore Base, a world centre for subocean technology. The redevelopment of Stockton racecourse as a major sports, leisure and retail complex. The partnership with British Urban Development to create the European Chemical Centre...



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Doctors accuse the Government of bid to censor research

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Medical academics yesterday accused the Government of political censorship by giving itself powers to suppress medical research findings.

Dr Colin Smith, chairman of the British Medical Association's medical academic staff committee, said the Department of Health and Social Security had recently issued a new form of contract which gave ministers the right to veto the publication of any research commissioned by the DHSS.

Although the Government says the move came after legal advice on copyright, Dr Smith said that it gave Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, powers to suppress any results that were politically unacceptable.

For example, if a commissioned work showed that conditions in the acute hospital sector had so increased the sickness in nurses that wards could not be staffed, publication could now be prevented, he said.

Dr Smith told the BMA's annual conference of medical academic representatives the policy was unacceptable and could lead to a devaluation of any DHSS-sponsored research "when merely the fact that it had been published might tarnish the results with suspicion".

Earlier this year Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State for Health, said in a parliamentary answer the veto would only apply if publication was likely to result in libel, a breach of confidentiality or factual error. However

Dr Smith said in those instances it would be highly unlikely to be published. The only possible restraint could be a temporary delay in publication to allow the completion of legal processes to protect commercial development.

"We must make sure we do not allow Government - of whatever persuasion - to be able to censor the free expression of inquiry."

The British Medical Association has already written to Professor Francis O'Grady, the Government's chief scientist, complaining about the new contracts which came into effect this spring. The letter claimed scientists would stop working in collaboration with projects funded by the DHSS which would lead to a deterioration in the quality of research.

Many university medical research departments were refusing to sign the contracts, because of the implications of publications, the BMA said yesterday. Under the former contract, DHSS-funded researchers were expected to show the results of research prior to publication and to allow 28 days for the Secretary of State to comment. Any comment could be considered by the researcher but he was free to let publication go ahead in the original form.

The new contract states "it is subject to the prior consent of the Secretary of State" which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

Mr Michael Partridge, second permanent secretary at the DHSS, assured delegates yesterday that there was "nothing sinister" in the changes. "We have no intention of censoring research. It is intended to strengthen our legal position, in case the Secretary of State might be liable", Mr Partridge said. "We do not intend to change the procedure that goes on at the moment."

Conference delegates also expressed concern about the reduction of class experiments during pre-clinical medical training using student volunteers.

A survey carried out by the BMA showed that nearly 50 per cent of medical schools had reduced these classes for three main reasons: fear of contracting Aids by experimenting with blood samples; reductions in resources which meant there were no medically qualified staff to conduct the classes; and lack of indemnity insurance to cover practical experiments.

Dr Laurence Adams from Leeds said those provided one of the few examples of "proper scientific training" during undergraduate education. The conference agreed to refer a motion to the BMA's annual representative meeting in July calling on the association to take steps to ensure the retention of practical experiments with appropriate supervision within the undergraduate medical curriculum.

The first two Four Corners shops will be open in October and will grow to about 12 by early next year and 60 in two years' time. The Association of British Travel Agents reacted furiously both to the concept of exclusive travel shops and to Miss McAuley's comments. "What she is saying appears to be very unfortunate, especially from someone who has come from outside our industry."

Good grooming guide to a canine art



McLeod, a West Highland terrier, shows the patient approach at the International Grooming Competition at Windsor yesterday, with Sandra Harper wielding the scissors for Britain. Groomers from several countries are taking part in the contest (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Football club gets a change of pitch

By Sam Kiley

A convoy of refrigerated container lorries arrived in west London early today stacked with high-tech grass from the Yorkshire village of Elvington, in a £250,000 operation to replace the artificial Queen's Park Rangers pitch.

Nine thousand square yards of the grass - a blend of Cheving and Slender Creeping Fescues with a "boost" of Dwarf Creeping Rye for extra strength, washed of any trace of soil - is being replanted in a layer of sand above a football pitch-sized water tank at the Rangers' Loftus Road ground.

The grass is being trucked 200 miles to the ground in west London at the rate of 1,000 square yards a day. Intensively reared for the past 15 months by the Yorkshire-based company Rolawn, it will be irrigated and "fed" by an underground network of pipes.

"It is basically a hydroponic football pitch", Mr Alan Johnson, who is installing the new turf, said. The grass would grow almost continuously, the rate controlled by a constant flow of nutrients through the sand.

"We are laying it out from the west to the east of the stadium in blocks like giant bathroom tiles." "The pitch will be far tougher than conventional grounds because the roots will have to dig through 16 inches of sand to reach the water and nutrients in the tank below", he said.

Rangers are replacing their artificial pitch after seven years because that type of surface is banned for European competitions.

Mr Robert Taylor, technical director of Rolawn, said that although the hydroponic method had been used for the Olympic stadium in Athens, the combination of washing the soil from the roots and laying them on the base of sand was unique. QPR could be setting new standards of pitches for British football clubs.

That will come as a relief to players. The old plastic pitch was unpopular because of its runway pace and unforgiving hardness. However, groundsmen of the future may find they have to swap their flat cap for a laboratory coat and litmus paper.

Smoking parents put children at risk

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

The health of more than two million primary school children is "undoubtedly" being put at risk by the smoking habits of their parents, according to community medicine experts at St Thomas' hospital in London.

Their detailed study of the effects of so-called passive smoking involved almost 5,000 children aged to 11 in England and Scotland.

It disclosed that a child whose parents each smoke 10 cigarettes a day stands a 40 per cent higher risk of contracting bronchitis than a child of non-smoking parents.

There was also a 27 per cent greater chance of persistent cough and 60 per cent higher risk of having chest wheezes.

The results of the survey, which is part of a long-term national study of health and growth funded by the Department of Health and Social Security, are published in the latest issue of the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*.

Miss Susan Chinn, the research statistician on the project, said yesterday that unlike other surveys, the St Thomas' study was able to detect the relationship between the number of cigarettes smoked and health risk, rather than simply the number of smokers in the family.

The researchers have been careful to take out the effects of social class, overcrowding and numbers of children in the family which can mask the effect cigarette smoking has on the health of a child.

As a result, they were able to conclude that "This study should remove any remaining doubt as to whether parental smoking is harmful to older children".

A higher proportion of children in Scotland are at risk from passive smoking. The researchers found that more than a third of Scottish parents smoke more than 15 cigarettes between them a day, compared to fewer than a quarter of English parents.

Genetic engineering changes: 2

Chance at last to sell patent plants

The European Patent Office has approved for the first time an application for a plant. The patent covers the use of genetic engineering to increase the protein content of crops grown for forage. In addition to protecting the method of manipulating the specific genetic material, the protection also applies to the plants themselves.

Before the decision, the European Patent Convention was thought to exclude life-forms from protection. Uncertainty existed because the convention can be read as forbidding all claims on plants and animals.

It specifically excludes from protection "plant and animal varieties", as well as "essentially biological processes for the production of plants and animals". However, in granting the application by Agrigenetics, of Boulder, Colorado, the European officials interpret the description "variety" in a limited way, allowing patents to be granted on new animals and plants, or on their constituent parts, now considered to make up a variety.

In a few weeks' time the European Commission will ask the 12 Community countries to agree changes in the patent law to cover genetically engineered life-forms. Pearce Wright, Science Editor, in the second of two articles looks at the implication for the future of plant breeding.

A similar approach has been adopted by the European Commission in the proposals contained in a draft directive for clarifying patent law. The wider interpretation will be welcomed by the new biotechnology companies, which have yet to recoup on their research and development, and by the larger established agricultural firms, represented by the International Union for the Protection of Plant Varieties, based in Geneva, which has been lobbying for change.

By coincidence, a report on the extent of the decline of the world's genetic resources in plants, animals and insects is published this week.

The threat to the genetic resources of the world is among a series of studies covered by *The Earth Report*, which documents the impact of a wide variety of environmental destruction. Estimates of the number of flowering plants in the world range from 275,000 to 400,000. At least 25,000 are threatened with extinction.

The implications of such mass extinctions are serious for the genetic variability that these natural plants bring to crop breeders. The natural gene bank in wild plants has provided a huge potential for new crops, medicines, fibres and foods. According to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, 40 per cent of the prescription drugs on sale contain a medicine of natural origin.

BA launches luxury travel agents for wealthy clients

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A nationwide chain of luxury travel shops catering for the growing number of wealthy British holiday-makers is to be opened by British Airways.

The airline is to place its existing 42 travel outlets and replace them with at least 60 "up-market" stores where customers will be able to browse through travel brochures for high cost holidays, in such places as China, Bermuda and South America. The average price will be £550, compared to the current average holiday cost of £250.

Customers will be able to talk to staff in comfort about their individual needs and even buy a select range of accessories, ranging from luggage to watches showing international time.

British Airways has set up a new company, British Airways Enterprises, to launch the glossy new shops which will be known as Four Corners. The managing director will be Miss Sheila McAuley, former sales director of Elizabeth Arden and Parfums Lagerfeld, who has been named by boosting Chloé, from thirteenth to third most popular perfume in the country.

Travel agents tend to hide away in back streets and concentrate simply on putting on garish displays of the cheapest packages they can find in the country, she said yesterday. "We believe the time is now right for something completely different where we can use retail skills to appeal to those who want a more expensive holiday they can tailor to their own requirements."

Mr Jim Harris, British Airways marketing director, is convinced the new chain will not only bring instant profits but help to boost BA's services by encouraging people to book club class flights with the airline, rather than economy class.

"The tragedy is that until now travel companies have only competed by price. People are prepared to stay in the best hotels when they go abroad, eat in the best restaurants and hire the most expensive cars. Yet they always travel economy together with the rest of the package holiday market," he said. The shops will be targeted

in the main boom areas of the country, especially the South-east. "We will sell someone a package to Benidorm if they really want it," Mr Harris said. "But we will try to convince them they should go to Bermuda, China or the many untapped places in South America instead."

The first two Four Corners shops will be open in October and will grow to about 12 by early next year and 60 in two years' time. The Association of British Travel Agents reacted furiously both to the concept of exclusive travel shops and to Miss McAuley's comments.

"What she is saying appears to be very unfortunate, especially from someone who has come from outside our industry."

Travel agents nowadays do not just sell cheap packages from behind garish windows. An awful lot of people want the large number of cheap but good value holidays which are now available but equally there are many others which specialise in high quality, expensive holidays.

Mr Robert Taylor, technical director of Rolawn, said that although the hydroponic method had been used for the Olympic stadium in Athens, the combination of washing the soil from the roots and laying them on the base of sand was unique. QPR could be setting new standards of pitches for British football clubs.

Inquiry backs disaster plan

A national disaster plan for the emergency services may be recommended by the chairman of the King's Cross fire inquiry.

Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, indicated yesterday that his report might tackle the issue of such a strategy. "It seems to me that there would be much to be said for a national disaster plan", he said.

"I would be glad to hear if anybody supports that. Nobody yet seems to have grasped this nettle. It might be about time somebody did."

Mr Fennell's comments came less than three weeks before the end of the inquiry, which began on February 1, and as he prepares to write his report on the fire in which 31 people died.

communication and liaison between the emergency services at King's Cross.

He spoke yesterday as Mr Ian McGregor, assistant chief constable of British Transport Police, was being questioned by Mr Roger Henderson, QC, counsel to the inquiry, about his force's proposed manual for dealing with incidents.

Work on the manual began three months before the fire. Mr McGregor explained the British Transport Police force - which polices railways, the Underground and some shipping - has no formal links with other forces.

However, forces throughout Britain were helping to prepare the manual which would be kept up to date and set out the roles played by different emergency services in tackling disasters. The manual would give detailed guidance to officers on how to deal with any repeat of a King's Cross disaster.

They would be warned to use caution before directing passengers to the surface past areas which could be affected by fire or smoke, and to consider evacuating stations by train, particularly if an escalator was involved in the fire, Mr McGregor said.

He said there had been a 10-fold increase in incidents of smoking on the Underground reported for possible prosecution since the fire.

For the year until last November 18, the day of the fire, 60 smokers were reported. In the remaining six weeks of the year 98 were reported, with a further 223 in the first four and a half months of this year. The inquiry continues today.

Mr Taylor said in an interview with BBC Radio 4's *Local Network* programme, to be broadcast tonight: "Groundsmanship is a very complex science these days. The man who looks after QPR's pitch will have to be as much a technician as a horticulturalist."

A scene immortalized by Turner, Reynolds and other English artists is at the centre of an impassioned dispute between residents and planning authorities.

When the great painters stood at the top of Richmond Hill, they were inspired by the leafy prospect and shimmering bend of the Thames, which still give an illusion of untouched landscape in the west of London.

Chinese ceramics sale fetches £3m

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

The Hong Kong art market transported itself to London yesterday for the largest and most successful Chinese ceramics sale Christie's has held in a decade. "There was clearly a spill-over of enthusiasm from our recent sale in Hong Kong", Mr Colin Sheaf, of the auctioneers, said.

Two lots overtook the Christie's record for a piece of Oriental art: first a Yuan blue and white jar, its globular body painted with an arching peony scroll, with lotus and waves and projecting monster masks. It sold to C C Lai, a Hong Kong dealer, for £495,000.

A large, early Ming bowl tightly painted with neutral, curling chrysanthemums on a copper red ground sold to Mr Robert Chang, Mr Lai's rival, for £429,000. Many objects had been

discovered in story-book circumstances, which duly affected their prices. One such was a Kinrande double-gourd vase painted with peonies and iron-red panels, its neck cut down when its owner adapted it as a lamp. It fetched £125,000.

Mr Sheaf said he found it in the dusty attic of the Bernasconi brothers outside Milan, amid the mass of Italian Impressionist paintings they also hoarded, which Christie's recently sold.

A yellow Ming plate decorated with flowering pomegranates and somewhat scratched after being used as a dog dish, by its European owner fetched £220,000.

Most extraordinary of all was the chance discovery which threw light on an early Ming blue and white bowl sold by the executors of the late Patrick W C Bain. As a result, its price soared from an estimated £80,000 to £209,000.

use and that only one complete bowl, as well as an extra cover, remained in the Imperial collection. The bowl in Peking is identical in size, description and shape to our one.

The sale totalled £3 million, with 95 per cent sold. Compared with those results, Christie's British ceramics sale paled into insignificance. Top lot in the morning session was a pair of Staffordshire creamware figures. Estimated at £2,000 to £2,500, they fetched £33,000, selling to J. Kaplan, the New York dealer.

A number of Hong Kong dealers also attended Sotheby's sale of Chinese snuff bottles in London, although not enough of them apparently, since more than a quarter went unsold. The sale totalled £250,000.

Residents are outraged at news of the "eyesore" and the commercial disruption they fear it will bring to the riverside scene. Mrs Camilla Panufkin said: "Practically every English painter and watercolourist has done a view of this area. To commercialize it in this way will strip it of its quietness and charm."

Professor Sir John Hale, who is leading the opposition to the pier, said: "This is one of the few tow-path areas on the Thames unbroken by physical interventions. The trees, bushes and water form an unutterably pleasing tow-path, and any sort of invasion will create a dangerous precedent."

POLL TAX DATA MOVE DEFEATED

June 6 1988

The Government rejected an amendment moved by the opposition in the House of Lords to prevent the community charge registrar having access to information stored for other purposes. Voting was 125 to 90 - Government majority 35.

However, the Earl of Caidness, Minister of State for the Environment, told peers on the third day of the committee stage of the Local Government Finance Bill that local authority employment records would be placed off limits to community charged registrars to meet the concerns of peers.

HOUSE OF LORDS

information the community charge registrar would have access to.

Moving the amendment Lord McIntosh of Haringey, chief opposition environment spokesman in the Lords, said that it was aimed at restricting the transfer of information to or by the community charge registrar.

Lord Meston (SLD) said that it should be stated in the Bill that the information obtained and retained for the administration of the community charge should be kept to the absolute minimum necessary.

Lady Faithfull (C) said that social workers were concerned that they could be compelled to jeopardize their ethical relations if information they received was available to the community charge registrar.

Turner country fights to save hillside charm

By Boris Johnson

A scene immortalized by Turner, Reynolds and other English artists is at the centre of an impassioned dispute between residents and planning authorities.

When the great painters stood at the top of Richmond Hill, they were inspired by the leafy prospect and shimmering bend of the Thames, which still give an illusion of untouched landscape in the west of London.

Residents outraged over 'eyesore' pier

Residents are outraged at news of the "eyesore" and the commercial disruption they fear it will bring to the riverside scene. Mrs Camilla Panufkin said: "Practically every English painter and watercolourist has done a view of this area. To commercialize it in this way will strip it of its quietness and charm."

Professor Sir John Hale, who is leading the opposition to the pier, said: "This is one of the few tow-path areas on the Thames unbroken by physical interventions. The trees, bushes and water form an unutterably pleasing tow-path, and any sort of invasion will create a dangerous precedent."

He finds it ironic that while English Heritage led the campaign against the construction of a landing pier at Westminster on the ground that it would spoil the view from the Houses of Parliament, the same body now seeks to impose an "entirely unwanted" pier at Twickenham.

Lady Hale added: "This is a place where Londoners can come to breathe and enjoy *rus in urbe*. There is already a pier across the river at Richmond, so there is plenty of mooring. But English Heritage have ignored the protests of anglers and all local conservation groups because they are determined to increase the number of visitors to Marble Hill House. They are only interested in houses. They are not interested in views or in the park."

English Heritage received the stewardship of Marble Hill House, which was built in 1725 for the Countess of Suffolk, mistress of George III, on the dissolution of the Greater London Council.

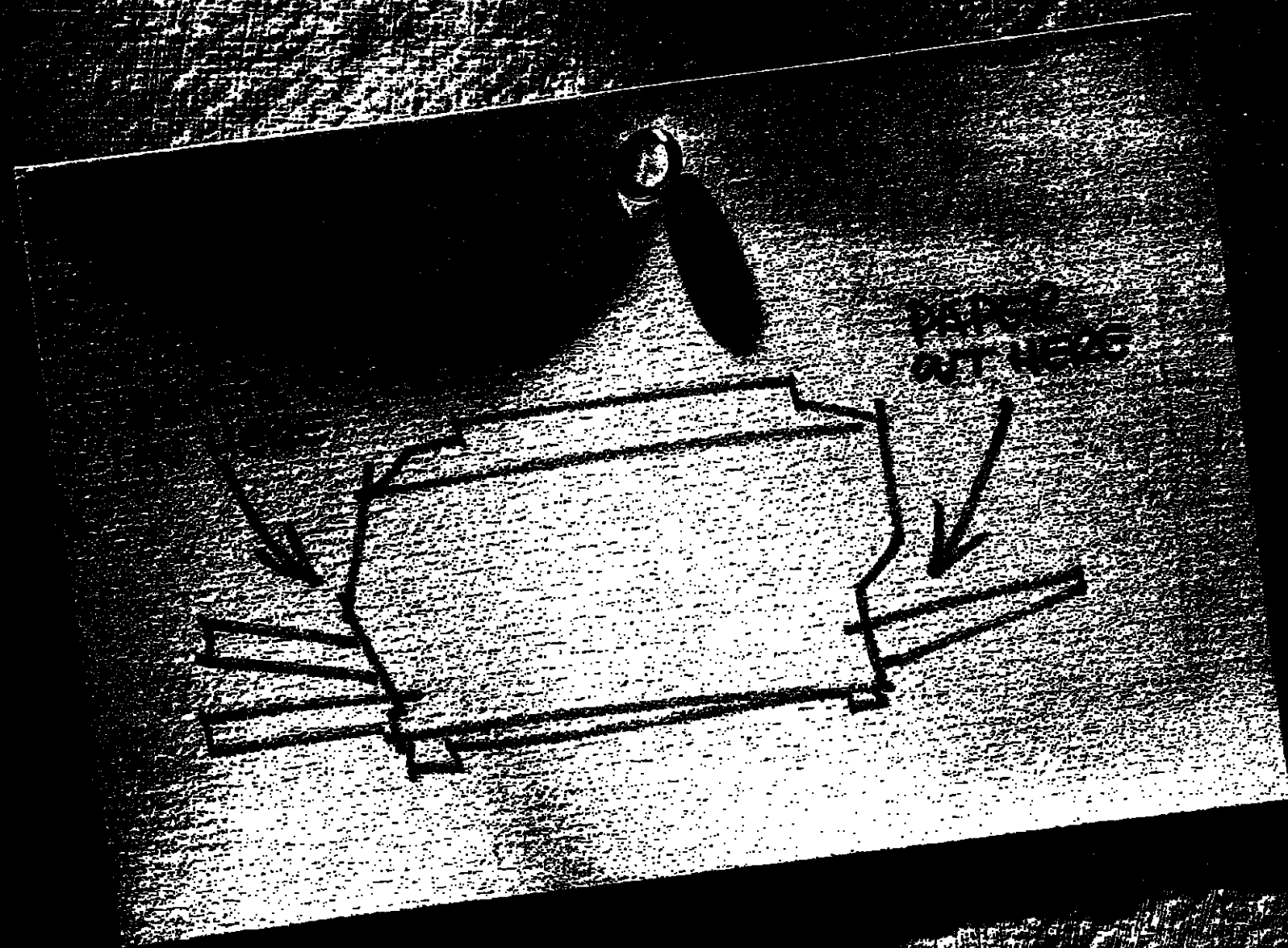
Lady Hale is fearful not just of the eyesore created by the pier but also of the invasion of the tow-path for a gang-way head, which she feels is certain to attract ice-cream vendors and other clutter.

Mr John Fidler, of English Heritage, defended the scheme: "In addition to preserving our sites we have a duty to make them presentable, understandable and enjoyable. We have been looking at new means of transport to Marble Hill House because congestion on the local roads has annoyed residents. River transport seemed a good idea."

"There have been strong objections from a local lobby about a threat to the great crested grebes that live in the area. But we have consulted the National Conservancy Council and its ornithologists say that they will not be unduly disturbed."

He also denied that the construction would have a severe effect on the view that delighted Turner, saying that every care had been taken in the siting of the pier.

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French parliamentary elections

Small parties poised to tip the balance

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

This week's campaigning for the second and final round of voting in the French parliamentary elections next Sunday will concentrate on mobilizing the third of the electorate who did not vote last weekend.

Backroom negotiations will be aimed at swinging the Communist vote to the Socialists and, more delicately, the National Front vote behind the traditional right wing.

The Socialist "tidal wave" that had been forecast failed to emerge in the first round. The highest parliamentary election abstention rate since the war — 34 per cent — undoubtedly played an important part in the result, which put the Union for Rally and the Centre, the right-wing alliance, slightly ahead of the Socialists with 40.5 per cent of the vote over 37.5 per cent.

However, computer forecasts still predict the Socialists will have an absolute majority in parliamentary seats after next Sunday — albeit in a slimmed-down form — providing those who abstained vote and all the left-wing votes go to the Socialists.

Many of those who abstained were suffering from political fatigue — having been called to the polls four times in the past six weeks. Others lost interest in the lacklustre campaign, especially on the right

where leaders had been demoralized by President Mitterrand's decisive presidential election victory over M Jacques Chirac last month.

Now every floating vote counts. The Communists have been given a boost after their dismal presidential election showing, with a first round vote of just over 11 per cent, a slight improvement on their 1986 result.

M Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, has announced that they will support Socialists in areas where a Socialist is in the lead, but maintain Communist candidates who are ahead of Socialists. This strategy could give them around 10 parliamentary seats, compared with the 35 they held in the previous Parliament.

The reason for the reduction is the return to a majority voting system over the proportional representation in force in 1986. This has also played havoc with the National Front. Its first round vote, of 9.5 per cent, is not so different from that of 1986, but the majority system could reduce the party's 35 parliamentary seats to none. Gone is the nearly 15 per cent of last month's presidential elections, which many feel was largely a protest vote against political infighting.

However, M Jean-Marie Le

Pen, the National Front leader, has not lost his bite. He has stated bluntly that the conservative alliance has no hope of winning next Sunday without doing a deal with the National Front. This applies particularly in the Bouches du Rhône district, which includes Marseilles. Here nine National Front candidates, including M Le Pen, are leading alliance candidates.

To stand down in favour of the right-wing alliance would win valuable seats for the conservatives, but M Le Pen is bound to want something in return. The dilemma for the alliance is that no matter how quietly they come to an agreement in individual constituencies, doing a deal with the National Front could lose them the centre-right vote.

M Michel Rocard, the Prime Minister, and M Pierre Mauroy, the new Socialist Party secretary-general, called for voters to turn out "en masse" next Sunday. So did M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former President, and M Chirac, the former Prime Minister, who both won more than 50 per cent of their constituency vote and have therefore been elected first time round.

M Rocard and M Mauroy, although in the lead in their constituencies, are still contesting the elections.



M Le Pen, National Front leader, commenting in Marseilles on his party's poor showing.

Japanese peace mission has an eye on trade

From David Watts, Tokyo

Japan is sending a Cabinet minister to Israel for the first time as part of the preparation of a new Middle East peace initiative. Mr Sosuke Uno, the Foreign Minister, will fly to Jerusalem this month after visiting Arab countries in an attempt to get Jews and Arabs talking to each other over the West Bank and Gaza.

He is expected to raise the question of Israeli treatment of West Bank Palestinians and will also see Mr Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, presumably in Damascus. Though the tour will come not long after the latest round of shuttle diplomacy by Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, Japan is keen to have its initiative seen as independent of the US effort.

The visit is being billed as part of the policy of the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita, of "contributing to the world". But it also appears to be an attempt to outflank a menacing Trade Bill in the US by wooing the Jewish lobby, as well as being a substitute for Japan's frustrated efforts to mediate in the Iran-Iraq war.

Books purporting to reveal the enormous power of the Jews and the Jewish lobby in setting US business and political policy have been popular in Japan in recent years. Although short on fact and long on prejudice, they have been popular among both bureaucracy and élite, so there may have been at least an unconscious side-effect in convincing policy-makers to ally themselves with such a power.

The Foreign Ministry maintains officially that the trip to Syria, Jordan and Egypt, followed by Jerusalem — does not represent any change in policy. But it will certainly be seen as such by Israel, which has complained of Japan's pro-Arab bias for years.

Though the ministry has been studying the idea of a broader-based Middle East policy for three years, it is only now that economic realities

make it possible. With oil prices lower, Japan is now less dependent on Arab states which might object to a more even-handed approach, and with the lessening of economic opportunities reflected in sharply-reduced trade with the oil-producing nations Japanese business is ready to look for other opportunities.

Clearly it has been allowed to do so: Japan-Israeli trade is up 85 per cent in the first quarter of this year, and last month Mitsubishi cars went on sale in Tel Aviv for the first time, through a Mercedes-Benz dealership.

By the end of the year business is expected to have tripled to an annual average of over \$1 billion (£530 million) over the past three years, a marked change from the days when Israel suspected the Ministry of International Trade and Industry of using administrative guidance to damp down trade with the Jewish state.

But how successful Japan's new diplomatic foray will prove is an open question. Tokyo brings to the area the virtue of lack of past involvement and the goodwill of many Arab states. If Tokyo can contribute to a settlement of the Palestinian question it will not only win world recognition but also open the way for expanded business opportunities in the area.

But just as the people of Japan are not greatly exercised over the fate of blacks in South Africa, they are equally indifferent to a problem most would regard as both a legacy of Western imperialism and a religious conflict which the Japanese, with their lack of religious commitment, regard as totally outside their ken.

The country is clearly determined, however, for better or worse, to have a go. Mr Uno last month told the visiting Syrian Foreign Minister, Mr Farouk al-Shara, that his country would commit itself to finding a solution to the Middle East conflict.

Shultz calls for a check on rights

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

The US Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, Mr Richard Shifter, yesterday visited the West Bank and Gaza Strip to investigate human rights conditions in the occupied territories.

His immediate superior, Mr George Shultz, had expressed concern over alleged human rights violations in the territories during his meeting on Sunday with the Israeli Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin. Mr Rabin conceded afterwards that "there are differences of opinion ... on the interpretation of what are human rights in the (occupied) areas".

Mr Shifter, who arrived here last week after attending the Moscow summit meeting, was told by Mr Shultz to stay in Israel and to establish, in co-ordination with Mr Rabin, a "mechanism" for keeping Washington informed on what is happening in the territories.

Mr Rabin said yesterday that as the six-month-old Palestinian uprising was apparently slowing, he was considering a review of some of the tougher measures used to contain the unrest. Israel Radio said he told members of the country's delegation to an international conference of liberals this week that he might even consider the return of Palestinians expelled within the past six months.

There are signs, meanwhile, that Israel is taking tougher steps against both soldiers and settlers involved in serious human rights violations in the territories.

Private Tamir Yacov, a Falasha who arrived in Israel from Ethiopia four years ago, was sentenced on Sunday to a year in jail for having killed a Gaza shopkeeper last January.

The army prosecutors had reportedly considered a murder charge, but chose the lesser charge in view of his disturbed background. Like many Falashas, Private Yacov has had great difficulty in adapting to his new country, and has felt alienated and discriminated against. Army psychologists have said he should never have been sent to Gaza on active duty.

An officer, Second Lieutenant Giora Even-Tzur, has been arrested in connection with last month's alleged atrocity in the West Bank village of Aroua, where villagers claim two youths were buried with stones in pens built for the purpose on a hillside behind the village.

Next day journalists were shown the pens, still filled with blood-spattered stones. A military appeals court this month reversed a lower court decision on Private Saguy Harpaz, one of the Israeli

soldiers filmed while brutally beating two Palestinian demonstrators near Nablus, and jailed him for a month. The army prosecutor had appealed against the lower court's suspended sentence.

On Sunday the High Court overturned another lower court ruling, on Mr Israel Zeev, a settler from Shilo in the West Bank charged with the unprovoked killing of a Palestinian shepherd near the settlement. It ordered that he be held in custody to the end of his trial.

The lower court had ruled that he be released on bail, but Justice Shlomo Levin of the High Court said that there



Mr Rabin: May allow return of expelled Palestinians.

were signs that the settlers were growing increasingly "trigger-happy", so incidents of this sort must be taken with the utmost seriousness.

●DAMASCUS: Mr Shultz yesterday dismissed as unworkable the idea of setting up an independent Palestinian state (Reuters reports).

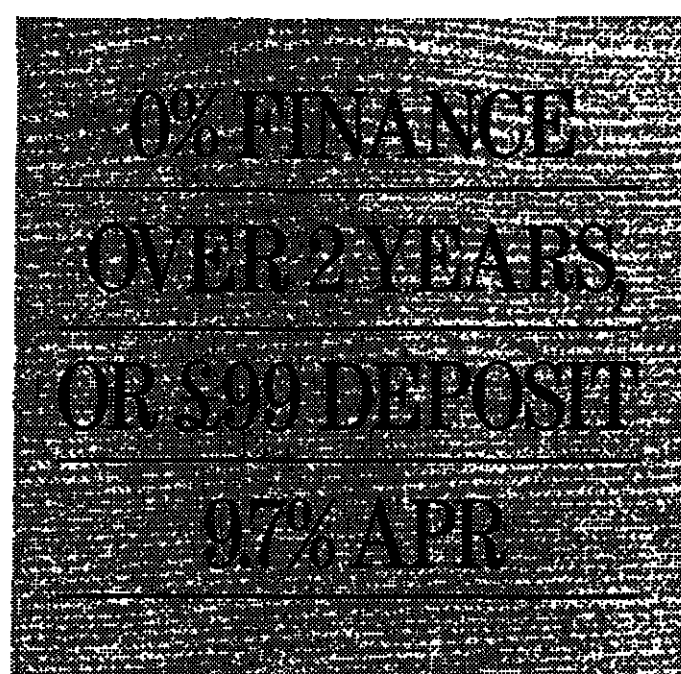
He was speaking before meeting President Assad of Syria to discuss Middle East peace efforts. Asked if the US would agree to an independent state for the Palestinians, Mr Shultz said: "Personally, I think that is unworkable and I would not think that is necessary to provide a good political outlook."

"It just does not make any sense to me to think there could be a workable state that was like a country on the West Bank and Gaza."

Mr Shultz, paying his fourth visit to the Middle East to promote US proposals to end the Arab-Israeli conflict, held three hours of discussions with President Assad before returning to Cairo.

On the future of the Palestinians, he said: "It's much more workable to think of a grouping of people that has a relationship, a confederation or an attachment, to another state or states. That's more workable. But that does not lessen the fact that you have more control over the conditions in which you live."

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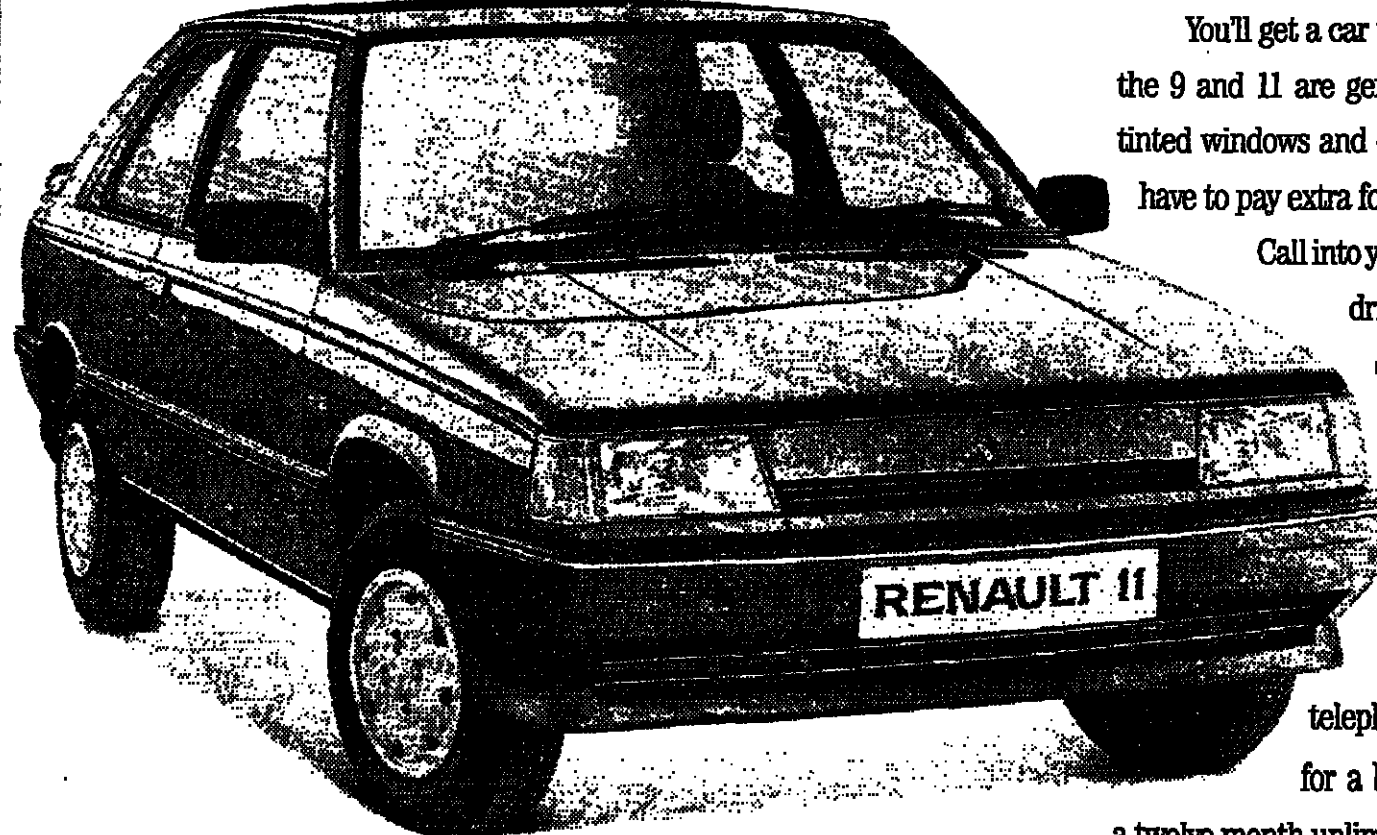
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Policy switch shuts Hong Kong's doors

Boat people to be returned to Vietnam when possible

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The British Government is now put unofficially at about 14,500. Another wave is expected in July and August when the prevailing wind swings round, helping the boats on their way.

The vast majority of boat people are from North Vietnam, can neither read nor write, have no skills which would make them employable, and are leaving to escape poverty rather than persecution.

Word has got back to the villages that a change of Hong Kong's policy is inevitable, causing many to bring forward their departure.

Another cause of the increased exodus is a growing risk of famine. Vietnam's cereal crops last year were damaged by the weakest and most erratic monsoon on record. Official figures showed grain production in 1987 fell well below the 18.2 million tonnes of 1985. The United Nations Food and Agriculture

Organization yesterday appealed for emergency food aid to avert a famine. It said large sections of the population were facing severe food shortages.

The small proportion of boat people coming from the south are less difficult to resettle because most have education and skills. But the change will apply to them too unless they qualify under the United Nations definition of a refugee. They will have to show good reason to fear persecution in Vietnam.

The Government's policy will be announced soon, but most of the details have already been worked out. The key element is the cut-off date. Boat people who reach Hong Kong before it will be able to hope for ultimate resettlement in a Western nation; those who follow will know that it is only a matter of time before they are sent back. Although

the Vietnamese will be held in camps while awaiting repatriation, for all practical purposes they will be in prison. The change will not affect those already there. Many have been there for years. Conditions in the older camps are grim, with overcrowding, a shortage of toilets and few facilities. Most people have nothing to do.

The policy change has been brought on partly by pressure from the Hong Kong Government and public opinion. But it also reflects the British Government's view that neither it nor the US, Australia, Canada and other nations which have accepted boat people for resettlement wish to continue an open-ended commitment. Sir Geoffrey has referred to a mood of "compassion fatigue".

Sir Geoffrey will also meet the new Chinese Foreign Minister in New York this morning. If the boat people have not been repatriated by July 1997, they will in theory become Peking's problem.

HONG KONG: Britain's Ambassador in Hanoi, Mr. Enrys Davies, is expected to brief Hong Kong officials on diplomatic initiatives with the Vietnamese Government over the repatriation question (Reuters reports).

Hanoi has publicly said it regards those who flee the country illegally as criminals and has refused to consider repatriation, except in a handful of individual cases.



Sir Geoffrey is to ask the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, right, to allow boat people to return.

Blue embrace for Duchess



The Duchess of Kent embracing Blue, a 14-month-old koala which was part of the welcoming committee at the Queensland pavilion at World Expo 88 in Brisbane. The Duke and Duchess visited the festival yesterday during celebrations of the state's 129th birthday.

University protest at Chinese corruption

Peking (Reuters) — Students at Peking University yesterday put up posters attacking the government and the Communist Party as mourning for a murdered student became an open political protest.

The posters criticized Chinese leaders by name, alleged that official corruption had plunged the country into its darkest period and called on students to "sacrifice themselves for democracy".

About 100 posters appeared next to a makeshift shrine of wreaths and a memorial portrait of Chai Qingfeng, whose murder last week close to the campus brought a protest march calling for tough punishment for his killers.

Death appeal

Rangoon (Reuters) — Burma's supreme court is expected to rule within four weeks on the appeal against a death sentence by Thomas Kirkpatrick, a Briton convicted of murdering his wife.

Palme debate

Stockholm (Reuters) — Sweden's Social Democratic Government appeared to be facing defeat on a vote of confidence over its investigation into the murder of Olof Palme, the late Prime Minister.

Blaze protest

Seoul (Reuters) — A student died after setting himself on fire in a protest calling for the reunification of the Korean peninsula and an end to President Roh's Government.

Graduate tax

Hobart (Reuters) — Australian graduates could face higher taxes to raise money for universities after a resolution on funding education was passed by the ruling Labor Party at its annual conference.

Priest killed

Santo Domingo (Reuters) — Two people, including a priest, were killed and nine others wounded when Dominican police opened fire on rioting prisoners.

Car thief dies

Lagos (Reuters) — A Nigerian who stole an American missionary's car at gunpoint has been executed in the northern city of Kano.

Zia plays election waiting game as he weighs longer-term options

From Michael Hamlyn, Islamabad

As President Zia of Pakistan sits in the shade of the arched wooden bungalow he occupies as Army Chief of Staff in Rawalpindi cantonment, his immediate thoughts must be on forming an interim cabinet. But options in the long-term must weigh heavier still.

Despite his promise of a new administration the day after his surprise constitutional intervention last week, when he dismissed his Prime Minister and National Assembly, he has still not managed to form one. The outlines, though, are fairly clear: he is plainly going

to reintroduce those technocratic experts he feels were once close to him but who were dismissed or demoted by the civilian Government. Thus Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, removed by Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, then Prime Minister, will take over again as Foreign Minister. Similarly Mr Mahbubul Haq seems likely to reassume the finance portfolio from which he was removed by Mr Junejo.

But the President's main attention is now on what follows. He has promised elections within three months and, according to those who claim to know his mind, his final decision will be influenced by

three factors: surprise; a military unwillingness to engage the enemy without the ability to win; and a dedication to Islam which may be compared to Cromwell's dedication to puritan Christianity.

General Zia faces three alternatives: to hold parliamentary elections on a party basis; to hold non-party elections; or not to hold elections at all.

The timing is not so important, though it seems unlikely that an election will be held within the three months. After that it will be the month of Muharram, when traditionally Sunni and Shia Muslims are at each other's throats and

riots are commonplace in Pakistan. And after that farmers will be preoccupied with the harvest.

Moreover in October Miss Benazir Bhutto, leader of the principal opposition group, the Pakistan People's Party, is due to give birth to her first child; and the closer elections are held to that time the more incapacitated she will be. It is certain that there will be very little notice of any elections and an extremely short campaign.

Although Miss Bhutto insisted yesterday that her party would win by a landslide in "free, fair, impartial party-based elections", her party faces disadvantages

bound to encourage the President. First, it has lost its reputation for invincibility. Its performance during local elections last year showed it is capable of defeat.

Secondly, the party can no longer rely on the block votes of organized labour since unions have been emasculated during the 11 years of General Zia's rule.

Thirdly, a strong middle class has developed, with money coming in from the Gulf, Europe, the US and Saudi Arabia. Some of the wealth is derived from the drugs and arms trades which follow the Afghan war. This new class has a strong interest in stability. Even in

its southern stronghold of Sind province, regional and ethnic divisions will weaken the overall appeal of Miss Bhutto's party. It seems highly likely, for example, that the political party of the *mohajirs*, the migrants from India and their descendants, will capture the cities.

Over curried chicken, rice and lentils yesterday, Miss Bhutto told me she was pretty convinced that the President was likely to go for elections on a non-party basis, as in 1985. Her party boycotted those elections, but voices are now strong within the party to take part whatever the conditions.

Bavadra ministers held after Fiji arms raids

From A Correspondent, Suva

Police in Fiji detained more than 40 ethnic Indians, including two former Cabinet ministers, after several tonnes of weapons were discovered in a series of raids.

The security forces were confident that they had broken a large arms smuggling ring allegedly set up by disaffected Indians wanting to avenge their loss of political power after the overthrow of the multi-racial coalition of Dr Timoci Bavadra in the two military coups last year.

The raids uncovered 93 AK47 rifles, 14 machineguns, 10 rocket launchers, 300 grenades and ammunition.

The authorities have confirmed that one of those detained was Dr Bavadra's former Foreign Minister, Mr Krishna Datt. He was held overnight at the main police station in Suva.

Supporters of Dr Bavadra's coalition claimed that the former Trade and Industry Minister, Mr Navin Maharaj, was also interrogated but was released.

The raids on seven villages in the Indian-dominated west of the main island, Viti Levu, and Suva, came after the

discovery by Australian customs officials of a similar cache on a Fiji-bound cargo ship in Sydney a week ago.

Fijian police believe that the arms found yesterday represented a large proportion of a consignment smuggled into the country on April 11. Both shipments are believed to consist of Czech-made weapons transported from South Yemen.

Brigadier Sitiveni Rabuka, the armed forces' commander who overthrew the Bavadra government and declared a republic after staging another takeover in October, quickly



Dr Bavadra: Armed struggle 'has never been considered'.

rejected claims that the arms were for his forces, who have been cut off from Fiji's traditional arms suppliers. He said there was an "attempt to destabilize the country with assistance from overseas".

Dr Bavadra, an indigenous Fijian, said yesterday: "Armed struggle has never been considered by us."

©Sydney: A link between the arms seized in Fiji and the shipment uncovered here was established yesterday when Taimud Ahmed, a Fijian-Indian aged 37, appeared in Sydney Central Court charged with conspiracy relating to "an intention to engage in a hostile activity in a foreign state" (Christopher Morris writes).

The court was told the charge concerned the illegal shipment of two containers of arms — one of 10 tons on April 11, and the other a proposed shipment of 12 tons intercepted at Darling Harbour here eight days ago.

The alleged mastermind of the plot was identified in court as Mohamed Kahan, aged 46, from London. Kahan fled from Sydney within hours of the arms being discovered.

Ousted rival challenges Lini

From Humphrey Hawksley, Port Vila, Vanuatu

More than two weeks after unprecedented riots about tribal land rights, the future of Father Walter Lini, the Prime Minister of Vanuatu, is still uncertain.

There is a continuing challenge to his leadership from a dismissed Cabinet minister, Mr Barak Sope — a man who worries the British, Australian and other Western governments, not least because of his links with Libya.

One person died in the riots, about 80 were arrested and shopfronts in the city capital were smashed. This political violence was the first of its kind since Vanuatu won independence from France and Britain in 1980.

Australia sent extra riot control equipment and two naval ships stood by, in case the evacuation was necessary. The country's tourist-led economy took a battering, with hotels reporting mass cancellations.

The Government blamed Mr Sope for having started the trouble, and he was dismissed from the Cabinet. He now says he wants to oust Father Lini by parliamentary means — prob-

ably in a no-confidence vote. He is lobbying the official opposition and trying to win over members of the ruling Vanuatu Party, of which he is still General Secretary.

Mr Sope, who is in his late thirties, works in secrecy. He has visited Libya several times in the past few years, as have several of his staff. He lives on the island of Ifira in Port Vila Bay; visitors are warned against going there uninvited.

It is not clear how much support he can muster. Land is an emotive issue among Melanesians, and Father Lini has called all his MPs to a special meeting in Port Vila tomorrow.

Western officials are keeping a close watch. Australia, the economic power of the South Pacific, has made clear its support for Father Lini, who telephoned his counterpart, Mr Bob Hawke, for help during the riots. But Mr Hawke is treading carefully so as not to be seen as interfering.

There is more international concern over the type of situation which might be emerging in Vanuatu. The

"vulnerability of small states" is appreciated in the Commonwealth since the problems of Grenada four years ago.

With recent Libyan attempts to win a foothold in Vanuatu and the more overt attempts at economic expansion by the Soviet Union there are fears of similar problems spreading to the South Pacific.

Dr Gerard Henderson, of the Institute of Public Affairs in New South Wales, said: "The very smallness of the nations of the South Pacific and their weak economies make them vulnerable to either the economic seduction of the Soviet Union or the much more bloody-minded operations engaged in by Libya."

Observers also point out that Australia has been caught unaware by the speedy development of events in the area. Just over a year ago — in March 1987 — a government report described the island states as politically stable. Since then there have been two coups in Fiji, violence over independence from France in New Caledonia, and now riots in Vanuatu.

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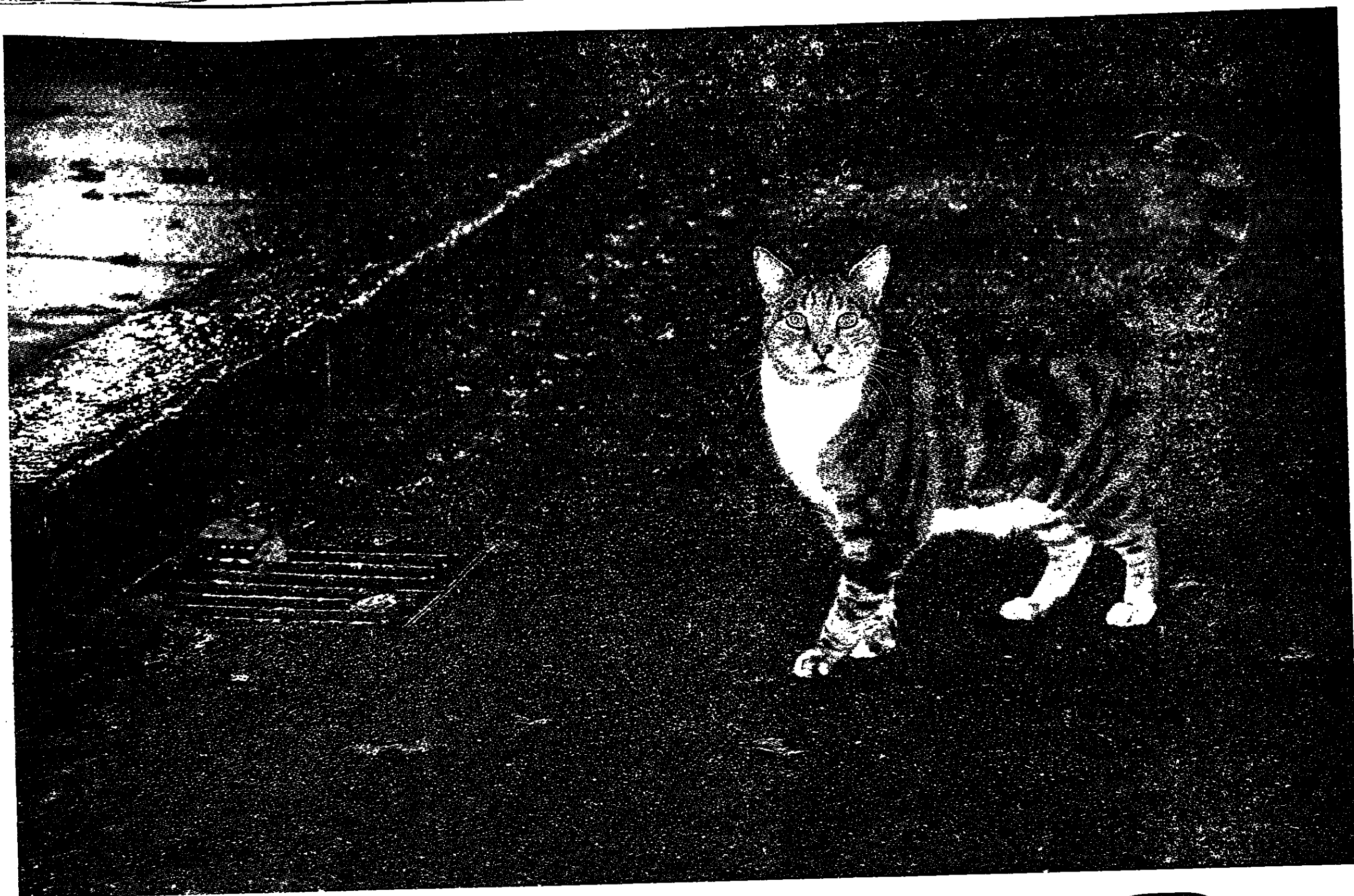
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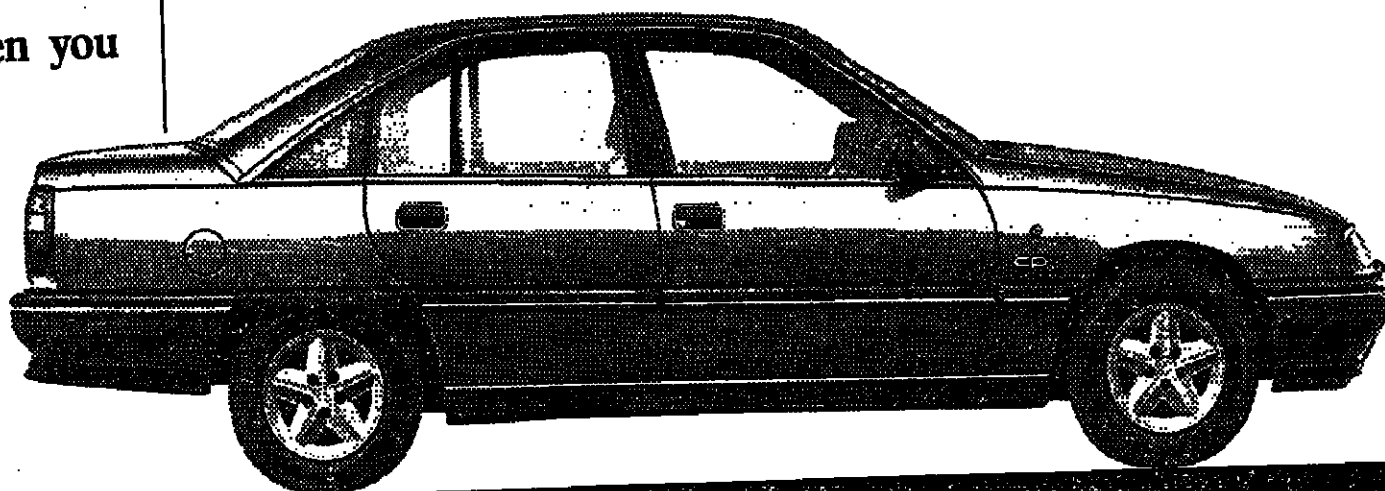
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SPECTRUM

Changing the prescription

Until 200 years ago medical education was based on walking the wards, apprentices trailing along in the footsteps of surgeons, whom they were expected to pay, or "dressing pupils" who owed absolute obedience to their masters, the physicians.

The London Hospital Medical College was founded in 1785 — the first in England — to base medical education on academic study. It is ironic that this year's student intake will be the last at "the London" to put quite such faith in the written word.

The curriculum is being redrawn for 1989, reducing the academic content of the first two pre-clinical years to give students much earlier contact with patients.

"The issue under debate," says Dr Alistair McDonald, Dean of Medical Studies, "is whether students are expected to learn too much information. They will have had to do that to get good A levels... we take the best of them from that grinding process and do it to them all over again."

"They also suffer from the professional enthusiasms of their tutors. A bio-chemist, say, wants to get across the marvels of his own subject, but all the student needs is enough bio-chemistry to cope. Doctoring is not a science — new doctors must retain a first responsibility to the human being."

"Our advertising for future students is going to have to carry warnings on this; that more responsibility, less simple learning, is going to be thrust upon the next intake. Many see very few patients in the first two years." Some of the changes will be tested on this year's intake of hopefuls intending to add to the 20,000



● England's oldest medical college is on the brink of a teaching revolution
● What is the students' diagnosis of the new, more practical approach?

Part Seven: Cases for Treatment

doctors and dentists who have already qualified. But it will be too late to help Fragati Gautama, a fourth-year student at this teeming pile in London's East End. "Those first two years were silly. Lots to remember, but no chance to understand." Or Martin Brett: "We were brought to screaming point by the books and the tide of facts."

Each of Britain's 28 medical schools has its own characteristics. Bart's, with its distinct aura of self-esteem. St Thomas's, endless stream of upper middle-class students. St Mary's record of high academic achievement and very good scrum halves. Bristol and Manchester where only the brainiest are admitted, and new-wave centres like Southampton and Nottingham where they already have curricula much like that now planned for the London.

Medical colleges accept just under half the 8,000 applicants who annually declare a wish to become doctors and dentists. London Hospital's share is an intake of 150 (boosted in the third year by 25 students who have done their pre-clinical work at Oxbridge), selected from 2,000

applicants of whom between 400 to 500 are called for interview. The interview, according to the Dean, Professor Roy Duckworth, is vital — and he is gently scathing about colleges which rely only on examination results to make their selection.

"The withdrawal rate for all universities is about 14 per cent. Our loss is around 8 per cent. That says something about the motivation of our young people. It also says something about our selection process. We ask for two Bs and a C. But we will admit a student with three Cs, if he knows, and can demonstrate he knows, what doctoring is all about. And you can only get that sort of insight by facing the chap at an interview." Dr McDonald takes part in many of the interviews and accepts that the London is not always the first choice.

"The college offers 50 per cent of places to women, but they represent only 30 per cent of students. Whitechapel, with its mixes of race and its poverty, can be intimidating, he says.

"We can live with that, because the people we get are so motivated." To the ritual question



And how are we today? A group of students at the London Hospital Medical College try out their bedside manner on patient George Dillon

"why do you want to come here?" the London gets a raft of answers. They often reflect a recommendation from men who trained there; or students talk of the great clinical experience to be found... the varied racial mix of the patients, the variety of the disease patterns.

McDonald says: "We do the jobber's work. This is known and, by those who want to join, appreciated. At the interview we are choosing those who fit in, in a sense we are choosing ourselves." A different socio-economic group? "I think, perhaps, yes. You can tell just by the ring of the voices on ward rounds that this is not St Tommy's."

"We are trying to spot who is going to make a good doctor. Whatever that means. It emphatically means something

other than intellect." Did the London accept lesser standards: some medical colleges ask for three As? "We are perhaps less demanding on pure intellect — and may be swayed by other considerations. Any local youngster is bound to get an interview: that means a lot of Bengalis and, because we are way above any demographic norm for racial mix, also a lot of Cockneys."

"We look for people who have shown interest in human beings. Perhaps they've been volunteers pushing a hospital tea trolley. That could mean they're simply stoking up Brownie points, but it also shows they are serious about getting into clinical medicine."

"We want people with other interests. Someone who has done all the work to get this far and also plays two instruments is someone who can cope. Finally, we are looking for people who fizz..."

Martin Brett has noted changes in fellow students who joined with him four years ago: "Motivation changes as you become better informed. There was an adolescent whiff about some of our views: the joyful process of healing becomes replaced by fairly mechanical disciplines, there is so much emphasis on the correct mode of treatment that a more spiritual approach does not occur."

Student president Linda Harris (who can't quite forgive herself for her answer at interview: "I said I wanted to come here to help people". So inane and pathetic; that's what beauty queens say!) admits to being shocked by the variety of motives of her fellows. "I really did think they'd all be driven by compassion. But there are just as many here because it was what their parents wanted, or to make money."

What of the medical students' reputation for drinking and wild parties? Professor Duckworth says: "My generation — I was here in 1947 — had little social conscience. The modern student has. They know their role in society. All that *Doctor In The House* stuff is very old hat: they have too much work to do, embracing medicine that is now so much more scientific. They go on, or they go. The professional student, paid by his family to hang around for years, is a figure from the past."

Brian James

TOMORROW

Science parks — where research means business

ERRATUM

● Today you have another chance to win one of Cambridge Computer's Z88 portable personal computers.
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The closing date for all entries is last post on Friday, June 24, 1988. A prize of a Z88 personal portable computer will be awarded to the first correct entry opened for each day's question. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The winner will be announced in *The Times* on Friday, July 1.

A to Z

Student views are taken either from the *Alternative Prospectuses* or *Student Union spokesmen*.

Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU (01-636 8000). Inquiries: University Entrance Requirements Officer

London University is a federation of more than 40 schools, institutes, medical schools and colleges. More than 100,000 students belong to London University and some colleges have a larger student population than many other British Universities.

The obvious problem facing students in London is the lack of accommodation, but most colleges provide rooms for some of their students. Application is normally made to the individual colleges but the University of London is planning a Federal Open Day on September 27

MEDICAL SCHOOLS

CHARING CROSS AND WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SCHOOL

The Reynolds Building, St Dunin's Road, London W6 8RP (01-748 2040).

Undergraduates: 880 (Male/Female ratio 4:3). Description: Formed by a merger in 1984. Five sites linked by live TV teaching system. Excellent recreational facilities.

KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

Denmark Hill, London SE5 8RX (01-274 6222).

Undergraduates: 715 (M/F 5:4). Description: Students are taught first two years of their course at King's College itself before transferring to King's College Hospital in Camberwell for final three years.

LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE

Turner Street, London E1 2AD (01-377 7000).

Undergraduates: 900 (M/F 2:1). Description: The oldest medical school in England and Wales with a reputation for producing top medical students.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Rowland Hill Street, London NW3 2PF (01-794 0500).

Undergraduates: 500 (M/F 1:1). Description: Based in a modern building overlooking Hampstead Heath, a friendly medical school with a reputation for pioneering work.

ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE

Royal College Street, London NW1 0TU (01-387 2898).

Undergraduates: 340 (M/F 1:1). Description: The oldest veterinary school in the English-speaking world. Built on two sites, one near King's Cross, the other a 570-acre campus near Potters Bar with a new equine unit and a new Small Animals Referral Unit.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

29-39 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AX (01-837 7651).

Undergraduates: 300 (M/F 1:1). Description: A small school with many of the facilities of London University on its doorstep. Specialized courses are the B Pharm Hons and BSc in Toxicology and Pharmacology.

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE

West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE (01-606 7404).

Undergraduates: 580 (M/F 1:1). Description: Hospital dates back to the 12th century. Emphasis placed on communication with patients and medicine in the community. Modern

audio-visual and computing facilities.

ST GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL

Cranmer Terrace, London SW17 0RE (01-672 9944).

Undergraduates: 750 (M/F 4:3). Description: One of the largest medical schools in London with new and well-equipped buildings in Tooting.

ST MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL

Norfolk Place, London W2 1PG (01-723 1252).

Undergraduates: 525 (M/F 3:2). Description: St Mary's places emphasis on practical training not only in hospital but in the community. A reputation for friendliness and excellent sports facilities.

UNITED MEDICAL AND DENTAL SCHOOLS OF GUY'S AND ST THOMAS'S HOSPITALS

Guy's Campus, London Bridge, London SE1 8RT (01-407-7600, ask for Guy's Campus); St Thomas's Campus, Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EH (01-928 9292).

Undergraduates: 1500 (M/F 5:4). Description: The new school is the result of three recent mergers. Two campuses with a common curriculum. A modern dental school and good library.

PRINCIPAL COLLEGES

GOLDSMITHS' COLLEGE

New Cross, London SE14 6NW (01-692 7171).

Undergraduates: 2,500 (M/F ratio 2:3). Major courses: Communication Studies, Art and Design, Humanities, Education, Modern Languages, Performing Arts, Mathematics, Social Sciences. Popular courses include

Psychology, Textiles, English, English with Drama.

Description: An attractive 19th century building set among the tower blocks of New Cross. A new £3 million library will soon be completed. Accommodation guaranteed for first years in Halls of Residence. Strong on creative and performing arts.

Student view: "Central London is only 10 minutes away by train. However, the SU bar is a cultural oasis offering the best college gigs in London."

Famous graduates: Mary Quant, Marilyn Rees, Graham Sutherland.

Open days: None this summer.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

South Kensington, London SW7 2AZ (01-589 6111).

Undergraduates: 3,410 (M/F 5:1). Major courses: Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Computing Science/Software Engineering, Biochemistry/Biotechnology.

Description: In the centre of South Kensington next to the Royal Albert Hall and Hyde Park. Has an international reputation in the sciences. First years living outside London postal districts are guaranteed university accommodation.

Strong on rowing and sports and active in music and drama. Student view: "Accommodation functional, warm and dry. Though attitudes are changing there is still an atmosphere of intolerance. Don't expect wild parties every night but do expect to meet people and form friendships."

Famous graduates: Sir John Egan (Jaguar cars), Joan Rudnick, H.G. Wells.

Open days: June 30 and July 1 (Chemistry/Biochemistry), July 6 (Engineering).

KING'S COLLEGE

Strand, London WC2R 2LS (01-836-5454).

Undergraduates: 4,675 (M/F 5:4).

Major courses: Medicine, Law, Pharmacy, Electronic and Electrical Engineering.

Description: One of the largest London colleges through a merger in 1985 with Queen Elizabeth and Chelsea colleges. Its main site is in the Strand but other departments situated in Kensington, Chelsea and Denmark Hill. Most first years offered accommodation.

Famous graduates: Susan Hill, Chapman Pincher, Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Student view: "Very good academic reputation. Social life and extra-curricular activities excellent."

Open days: July 11-15 (Engineering workshop), July 13 (Dental School)

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE (01-405 7886).

Undergraduates: 2,050 (M/F 60:40). Major courses: Sociology, Economics, Law, Politics & International Relations, Accounting and Finance, Management Science.

Description: The LSE is a cosmopolitan institution with an international academic reputation. Rooms provided for around one quarter of the students. Politically active SU with new bar and cafe.

Student view: "The LSE is a unique, invigorating and exciting place with excellent academic standards. However, it is not the place to go if you want the grandeur of an Oxbridge style college."

Famous graduates: Edwina Currie MP, J.F. Kennedy, Rt Hon John Moore MP, Pierre Trudeau.

Open day: September 23.

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Swinging from tree to family tree

Paper-and-pencil methods look likely to replace computers in solving the mysteries of human ancestry. In what they claim is the most exhaustive analysis of the genetic material of apes and humans so far carried out, American researchers have thrown away their computer programs in favour of a simpler, newly developed technique which shows that human beings are more closely related to chimpanzees than to any other species of ape.

Deciding which of the great apes is our closest animal relation has been a problem for decades. Until now there has not been a wholly convincing solution, despite ever more sophisticated computer programs to compare ape and human genes.

One reason, according to the new research, is that different primate genes evolve at wildly different speeds, even if they are next to each other on the chromosome. Discarding their results in the latest issue of

Molecular Biology and Evolution, Richard Holmquist of Berkeley, Michael Miyamoto of the University of Florida, and Morris Goodman of Wayne State University in Detroit say that coming to terms with genes that evolve at different rates is an important theoretical advance.

While most techniques have to assume that genes all evolve at the same rate, to keep the mathematics within reasonable limits of simplicity, the new method gets round this limitation, so that differences in rate can be tackled (rather than avoided in the interests of easy computation).

The researchers pooled data from three DNA sequences in each of four species: humans, chimpanzees, gorillas and orang-utans. Two of the DNA sequences were from the chromosomes genes that code for globins, a family of proteins which includes the components of the haemoglobin in red blood cells. The third came from the tiny



JOHN LAWSON

bodies in the cell called mitochondria.

These are the energy power-houses of the cell, and contain their own DNA for making some of the proteins they use producing energy from the oxidation of nutrients. Their DNA is quite independent of the DNA in the chromosomes of the nucleus (including the

globin genes) and evolves much faster. This goes against fossil evidence, which some researchers believe shows that chimps and gorillas share an ancestry quite distinct from that leading to humans. The precise timing of the branching points in the ancestral tree are uncertain, but the data suggest that if the chimp and human lines diverged about five million years ago, then the ancestors of the gorilla had already split off from this line around three quarters of a million years earlier.

Previous gene analyses have not been able to work out a convincing ancestral tree, because the variation in the speeds at which different genes evolved could not be handled by the programs. The differences now revealed are startling. One of the two globin sequences evolved three and a half times faster in the chimp lineage than in the line leading to humans, while the other globin sequence — practically a next-door neighbour

on the chromosome — evolved more than twice as slowly. Some genes might evolve faster than others because their structures allow them to mutate more easily.

The researchers say that matching different evolutionary speeds with different kinds of gene is their next target. The method employed in the new analysis was developed by James A. Lake of the University of California, who has already used it to infer what the earliest living cells were like.

Researchers confidently expect that the Lake's technique may go some way to eliminating a variety of long-standing theoretical problems. Application of Lake's method to human ancestry is set to cause a stir among evolutionary theorists meeting in Bari, Italy, this week to discuss human evolution.

Henry Gee

© Nature/The Times News Service, 1988

The simplicity of sophisticated city dressing leaves plenty of scope for baubles, bangles and beads to work their magic

PEOPLE

The multi-stranded pearl choker, once the camouflage of the wobbly-throated dowager, has been rehabilitated by the Princess of Wales as an essential in every chic woman's wardrobe. Ciro, the pearl specialists who started business in 1917 selling mock pearls by mail order, make chokers to measure using imitation or cultured pearls, or the real thing spontaneously made by the oyster (prices from £120 for two strands of imitation pearls, plus clasp).

The high-fashion status of the Ciro chain, with its 41 shops in stores across the country as well as branches in Europe and the US, is confirmed with the opening last week of a new jewel box of a branch in that elegant stretch of Bond Street which has become the ghetto for serious gems. Smack opposite Asprey and a step or two up from the famous Burlington Arcade, about displaying its top-quality copies of many well-known pieces of jewellery, such as the Duchess of Windsor's legendary panther pins. When Ciro, the man-made stone that matches a diamond for sparkle, is set in real gold by Ciro's craftsmen, the only jewelry origins in London, the price is £30 to £3,000. The new Ciro shop is at 9 New Bond Street, London W1.

The In thing

An indication of the age of Harrods' offspring has always been its name. Way In, the fourth floor nursery of young fashion designers, is the store's new Saturday matinee. Celebrations include commemorative T-shirts by today's designers, including John Richmond, *Body Map* and *English Eccentrics* — at the very 1988 price of £21. Anyone spending £100 or more will be given a *Paul Smith* T-shirt. It is not simply *Mary Quant's* cosmetics that are constant bestsellers at Way In. The mini, circa 1968 as well as today's versions, will be included in fashion shows being held at 11.30am, 2.30pm and 4.30pm this Saturday.

Touch of mink

Paul Wong a 21-year-old from Hong Kong, was judged Best Potential Fur Designer in the Saga Design Awards just announced. Fur plays a major role in Hong Kong's vibrant fashion industry, and Wong, a third year student at St Martin's School of Art, impressed the judges (who included designer Jean Paul Auvion of Revillon in Paris and myself) with his technical skills and clever use of colour. His demibuff Saga mink waterfall-colored coat and short swing coat in green mink won prizes. Other Saga award-winners are Tonia Brazier, Lisa Turner, William Chan, Candace Beacon and Keran Stewart.

In summer, when simplicity is chic and a simple linen shift is the height of sophistication, the strong, sculpted forms of tribal jewellery work a potent fashion spell.

Take a plain matt jersey T-shaped dress, the understated summer uniform of many smart city dressers, and think of the impact made by adding a single wide cuff of ivory, as worn by the Dinka men and women of the Upper Nile. Massed necklaces of beads, coins and amber, and armloads of clanking bands of silver and ebony, supply a sensuous mix of colour and texture.

Angela Fisher's *Africa Adorned* (Collins, £35) a stunning atlas of the symbolism and craftsmanship of Africa's tribal decorations, has been an inspiration to many jewellery designers. The ivory they use may be synthetic, but the bright stones, glass beads, cowrie shells (fertility symbols), seeds and teeth create an earthy style that looks convincingly real.

The best authentic tribal jewellery can be found in antique shops, but it is expensive. Real amber is rare; a fossilized conifer resin, it smells subtly of honey and lemon. Sac Frères, the amber specialist in Old Bond Street, says prices for the real thing start at £200 for a ring.

Liberty has hoards of authentic jewellery from Africa and Afghanistan, including Turkman pieces in white metal studded with cornelian or glass, and multi-stranded glass bead and bone necklaces from Nagaland, in north-east India. Also at Liberty are Dinny Hall's deep cuffs and earclips in stained sycamore.

Molly MacAllan recreates the massed twists of "pound beads", the tiny coloured glass beads from Kenya, for the necklaces she sells in her Knightsbridge shop, Arabesk. At Arabesk you can have them threaded up to your own colour scheme. Prices start at £20 and go up to £120. Arabesk is at 156 Walton Street, SW3.

Kikapu, at the Africa Centre in Covent Garden (38 King Street, WC2), brings in Masai chokers made of copper, brass, seeds and glass beads as well as ebony bangles and necklaces, decorated with giraffes, zebras and elephants. Prices range from £3.99 for a simple bead necklace to £38 for a Masai wedding choker.

Michelle Manguette specializes in ebony, silver, turquoise, jade and coral jewelry. She is displaying one-off designs by two French jewelers: amber and turquoise necklaces by Azuz Kalli, and pieces in rosewood and ivory by Catherine Noll. Manguette is at 20 Kensington Church Walk, W8, and 165 Draycott Avenue, SW3.

Above: Strapless tunic in scalloped and embroidered natural Irish linen, £165; Capri pants, £88, Pru Bowyer; Liberty, Regent Street, W1; Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW5; Lisa Stirling, Glasgow. Shell and bone bead and disc necklace, £19.95; dark brown wood earrings with beaded tassels, £11.95; wide natural wood bangle, £6.95; rounded and flat bamboo bangles, £5.95 each; all from Fenwick, 63 New Bond Street, W1 and mail order (01-629 9181). Three ivory-coloured bangles, £3.95 each, Pellini; mother-of-pearl bracelets, £4.95 each, Pellini; six black rattan and metal bracelets, £9.50 each; wide ivory armband, £280; all from Liberty, W1

Right: Linen double-breasted dress, £140, Hobbs, 37 Brompton Road, SW3 and branches nationwide. Purple and green stained sycamore bead necklaces with silver-plated tassels, from £108-£160 each, Dinny Hall for Rifat Ozbek; Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1; A la mode, 36 Hans Crescent, SW3. Silver-plated openwork earrings with ebony drop, £90, Dinny Hall for Bruce Oldfield, 27 Beauchamp Place, SW3; Liberty, W1; Harvey Nichols, SW1. Pale wood stranded bracelet on elastic, £6.95, Fenwick, W1

Make-up by Philippe Pellagaud
Hair by Anna Longaretti for Edmonds, 40 Beauchamp Place, SW3
Photographs by STEVIE HUGHES

A high-contrast, black and white portrait of a woman with voluminous, curly hair. She is wearing a light-colored, possibly fur-trimmed coat and a dark, multi-strand beaded necklace. She is holding a dark, textured object, likely a hat or a bag, in front of her chest. The image has a grainy, high-contrast quality.

Rayne, famous for covering royal feet for 50 years, has new owners and an exciting future

As polka-dotted high heels sink into the Ascot turf next week and stilettos teeter across the paddocks, top racegoers in the Royal Box will be comfortably — and prettily — shod in courts custom-made for them as ever by Rayne.

Shoemakers by royal appointment for more than 50 years, Rayne steps gracefully into its 100th year in business by continuing to contribute to the serenity of their royal customers who have to spend long days on their feet. It is all serenity, too, back at Rayne's King's Cross base despite the major upheavals in recent months. The company's centenary celebrations next year and its radical new direction are being masterminded by total newcomers to the business — David and Rosie Graham. Rayne has always been a family business. Founded in 1889 by Henry and Mary Rayne, it was sold to and part of Debenhams (subsidiary Burton Group) since 1973, it has been run by the family, through their grandson Edward Rayne. In 1980, Burton of an isolated division in a retailing group, K. H. Burton, sold the business to David August to David Graham, a mail-order and founder of Pass

Graham's only experience of the shoe business was as chairman of the cricket boot and safety footwear firm Headlam, Sims & Coggins. But in less than a year Graham has switched Rayne's role from that of manufacturing retailer with a £6 million

Footnote: Rosie and David Graham

The airy King's Cross factory hums with industry. Order books are full. Craftsmen, many of whom have been with the firm more than 40 years, hand-last and finish the traditional court shoes and pretty sling-backs that are being designed under the direction of Graham's wife Rosie.

The Grahams feel privileged to be in charge of the Rayne heritage, with its archives of historical footwear that include shoes made for Lillie Langtry, Vivien Leigh and Marlene Dietrich. One pair of black patent pumps with a flat grosgrain bow, best sellers for 40 years, were designed for Gertrude Lawrence. A pair of tiny satin sandals worn by the Queen on her wedding day are displayed in the showroom. Rayne makes shoes for the Princess of Wales

The spotted silk and flower-print slings-backs, peep-toe or closed, that are in this summer's range, as well as the elegant new punched brogues, courts and laced-up Gibson styles, are all Rosie Graham's contribution. No shoe is approved before it is tried on by her. "I am crazy about comfort," she said, twisting her ankle to show off the Ava Gardner, a new deep-scooped style. She hurries on to demonstrate a range of clip-on trims that create a wardrobe of styles from one basic pair. A velvet bow is clipped on to sit smoothly on the vamp. Twisted and clipped on upside down the bow transforms the shoe into a high-tongued Cavalier pump.

shop losing its Oliver Messel décor upset conservationists, but the Grahams are anxious to explain they are not revolutionaries. "We are proud of the Rayne name and we believe it has great potential," David Graham says.

Although the UK's £3 billion-a-year shoe business is monopolized by cheap imports, the world still looks to Britain for high-quality crafted leather shoes. However, these are mainly men's. The Grahams with Rayne may change that. Shops are being redesigned and there will be Rayne stockings and tights and an expanded range of handbags. Rayne already provides a bursary to Cordwainers College in Hackney. To celebrate the centenary, the Grahams have announced a competition for young shoemakers to design a small line of Rayne shoes for the 1989 winter range.

GLYNN BOYD HARTE

LIFE'S A BEACH IN

Left to right: Spectator court shoe with punched black patent toe-cap, "Agnate", \$89.95; also available in white kid with navy toe-cap; in cream with a taupe toe-cap; also available in a sling-back style called "Mystro". Liberty print fabric plain court shoe, "Flower", \$79.95; also available as a sling-back, "Garden"; black and white spotted silk peep-toe shoe with bowed sling-back, "Ascot", \$89.95; black and white spotted kid high-heeled court shoes, "Moon", \$94

All available from H & M
Rayne, 15 Old Bond Street,
W1; Harvey Nichols,
Knightsbridge, SW1; and
Fraser's of Glasgow

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TIMES DIARY

BARBARA AMIEL

Clugging along the trans-Siberian rail-roads is a special train for foreigners is a rather pleasant ride. No telephones or fax machines and a lassitude that sets in after hour after hour of lurch, pine and elm go by. That took care of much of last week for me. At night, when the train stopped at local stations, I could see the crumpled passengers on the Soviet Union's regular trains. They were squeezed into wooden sleeping berths, six or eight per compartment.

My only complaint was the shortage of hot water and soap — and liberty, as I rediscovered when trying to make an unsuccessful dash for an ice cream somewhere between Krasnoyarsk and Irkutsk in eastern Siberia. Walking around the stations even for a quick smoke is restricted. Actually, I felt embarrassed by the comfort of my journey as station names familiar from the chronicles of Solzhenitsyn and a hundred others rolled by: Perm, Omsk, Novosibirsk. What misery those bleak platforms have seen.

On Tuesday I stopped over for a day in Irkutsk, which is not restricted. All the same, it was only about a minute and a half into my afternoon walk when a young chap caught up with me and introduced himself as a student from the Foreign Languages Institute in Moscow. He suggested that he accompany me to practice his English. I said no, but regretted it later. He had gone into a telephone booth the minute we separated and it seemed silly of me to have forgone the opportunity of my own personal translator, when he or one of his kind would be shadowing me anyway.

Later I sat alone at a market off Karl Marx Street eating a sausage roll and drinking abominable coffee in a small thick glass. I was struck by the silence, in spite of the crowds. No radios, no cars, no boisterous conversation. A mother and her son of about 10 sat at the small table with me eating their sausage rolls with immense concentration. When they spoke, which was rarely, they almost whispered.

On the way back to the hotel I decided to be frivolous and went into a beauty shop for a manicure. The room was dark and cavernous with about two dozen women silently waiting their turn. When it came they would go up to the manicurist, sit down and use her remover to take off their own nail polish. The manicurist watched indifferently. A thick smell of permanent wave lotion choked the air. The dreariness of that room said more about squelching the human spirit than most political tracts.

Finally returning to the hotel, I glimpsed a political demonstration in Labour Square, apparently a protest against the party's state of candidates. The demonstration had been approved by the authorities and speakers for and against were taking turns at the microphone addressing a crowd of about 500. I was told the protest had grown out of a successful attempt a few years ago to prevent a power plant being built on Lake Baikal. Greenies one day and political activists the next — time by its standards but illustrating, I think, what happens when you let the genie out of the bottle.

BARRY FANTONI



More stretches of taiga, a moon that hung so low it seemed to brush the earth and then on Thursday the train pulled into Ulan Bator in the People's Republic of Mongolia. It takes some time crossing the border since both the Soviets and the Mongolians need to take the train apart in case some poor wretch has managed to stow himself away. It occurred to me that escaping from the USSR to Mongolia would require rather a desperate state of mind.

Few tourists on the streets of Ulan Bator, although the country is said to have up to 4,000 a year, largely from the Comecon nations. The Gobi takes up rather a lot of the country, but I fear that neither desert nor the constant presence of mustard gas in the air, food and bath water will prevent Mongolian chic. It seems inevitable in spite of the statue of Stalin and all the posters proclaiming such unhappy news as "Lenin Thought Lives". A British builder has been contracted to put up a new hotel.

On Friday night I dined with a group of Western businessmen who were listening to authentic Mongolian music played on a Jew's harp and a slack-bowed fiddle. Afterwards I wandered downstairs where the young Communists of Mongolia were having their five-yearly bash. They were listening to a rendition of a Western-style rock song in English which kept asking "Have You Ever Been Lonely?" to the accompaniment of electric guitars. Apparently more than 40 per cent of Mongolia's population is under 18 and the young are beginning to seize their power.

Standing inside the ancient temple walls at Karakorum, once the capital of Genghis Khan's empire, one feels quite Ozymandian. Beyond the walls are ugly cement flats and industrial storage tanks. Inside, the Mongolian government seems intent on building an equally ugly office to handle visitors to the temple. All the same, to be virtually alone in the temple, bazzards swooping low over the walls, the wind blowing between the 108 towers, is an extraordinary luxury, although one can only experience such a privilege while the society remains closed and isolated. The great temple has been neglected badly, the paintings on display crudely restored. I hope the money and will is found to do better.

Beirut Terry Anderson is this morning believed to be in one of three buildings sandwiched between Syrian troops and the ruins of the Beirut "Green Line". At some point during the day his family pray that his kidnappers will take one of the Beirut morning newspapers to his cell. For the major dailies here are today carrying one of those short but intensely moving, personal letters that tell you more about the anguish imposed by hostage-taking than any amount of unsoiled speculation.

The letter is from the mother of Anderson's child, Sulome, and marks the third birthday of the small, noisy, extraordinarily pretty little girl he has never seen. It reads: "Terry my life, it's June 7 my love. Sulome is three years old today. Her only precious wish is to see you and be with you. She wants you to sing to her 'Happy Birthday Sulome'."

"She loves you very much" Terry and she knows that you love her too, that you want to be with her but you can't do that yet. She's good and patient, so should we be, my darling. I pray you'll come to know how much you mean to me Terry. I live for the day we are joined together again, the day God answers our prayers. Till we meet again, I love you with every beat in my heart. Madeleine."

Anderson is the Associated Press bureau chief in Beirut and is the longest-held hostage. He was kidnapped more than three years ago, on March 16, 1985. He knows he has a daughter, has

Robert Fisk reports on a new round of political manoeuvring

Hostages: Assad's gamble

already seen a photograph of her — his picture, taken from every video tape released by his captors, cover Sulome's bedroom walls — but his frustration reached such depths last year that, as a fellow hostage remembered it, he beat his head against the wall of his basement jail until the blood ran down his face.

If Anderson is where most people think he and the other foreign hostages are held, he probably knows that troops of the Syrian peacekeeping force are not far away. It is difficult, almost impossible, to move captives around the streets now that cars are searched at Syrian checkpoints. Life today has a static as well as a limbo quality about it for the 16 men guarded by Iran's proxy Hezbollah forces in West Beirut.

Not so for the Hezbollah themselves. Yesterday they were back on patrol in the suburbs nominally under the control of Syria's special forces. There were no visible weapons — except in that small pocket of ruins in which the hostages are kept and from which the Syrians are still prohibited — but there were bearded men constantly prowling the streets in Mercedes. "Hezbollah intelligence" is how they were balefully described

to me by a Lebanese aid worker. Nor were they merely fulfilling the obligations of the four-power committee which includes the Hezbollah and which holds responsibility for the deployment of Syrian troops in the suburbs. They were specifically watching for signs that the Shia Amal movement — Syria's proxy Lebanese ally — might be about to start another fire-fight which could then be used as a pretext for the Syrians to move even deeper into the ruins of the Green Line. For the Syrians have a specific knowledge of the hostages' whereabouts, of those three buildings beside the line and of the Hay Madi barracks in which the majority are thought to be held.

Nor is their knowledge in any way new. More than a year ago the Syrians not only pinpointed one building in which they knew that foreign captives were held but — long before they sent uniformed troops into the area — actually stationed a squad of plain-clothes intelligence men in a neighbouring apartment.

It was their way of telling the Hezbollah and its Iranian supporters that Damascus too now had a stake in the hostages. And one of Syria's demands, according to Shi'ite militia

sources, was that those foreigners must be kept alive. It was from that moment that Syria not only announced publicly that it would "save no effort" to protect the hostages — lives but began to suggest — privately, to diplomats — that those countries with captives in Lebanon should talk to Iran about them.

Syria wanted to become a mediator and, now that President Assad's soldiers are only a few hundred yards from the hostages, the message is louder than ever, in public, repeated by ministers in Damascus. Why don't Britain and the US speak directly to the Iranians? That is presumably what Iran has asked Syria to say and, according to reliable Shi'ite sources within the suburbs here, that is precisely what Britain and the US have already begun to do.

Unfortunately, the Syrian advance into the suburbs has not been the smoothly developed event which President Assad and several Western governments might have hoped. Abdul-hadi Hamadi, the Hezbollah official leading the deployment, is deeply suspicious of Amal's intentions, as well he might be. As the man widely accused of kidnapping two West Germans

and also of involvement in the disappearance of Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, he understands only too well that Iran's stake in the hostage crisis is the biggest of all. Which is why the leaders of the opposing Shi'ite movements in the suburbs — pro-Iranian and Lebanese nationalist — have resumed a disturbing and acrimonious debate about Iran's activities in Beirut.

On Sunday, for example, Sheikh Mohamed Hussein Fadlallah, the spiritual voice of the Hezbollah, announced that there was a "deliberate plan" to evict Iran from Lebanon, a country which he described disconcertingly as "like a lung through which Iran breathes".

There was, he said, a regional as well as a global plot to turn the Shi'ites of Lebanon against Iran and thus choke the Islamic revolution in Tehran. Sheikh Qabalan is a supporter of Syria's intervention in the southern suburbs of Beirut and he went on at once to urge Syrian troops to act in the area not just as peacekeepers but as a "deterrent force". There were plots afoot in the suburbs by "various groups from inside and outside Lebanon" to wreck the Syrian security plan. And by "various

groups" he was, of course, referring to Hezbollah and Iran. These speeches were not made by chance, nor without authority. They are the authentic sound of Syria and Iran talking to each other, feeling their way by proxy towards a mutually beneficial solution.

The Iranians, thrown back in two months of fighting in the Gulf War, want to hold on to their Islamic enclave in Lebanon — the only home-grown example of Ayatollah Khomeini's promise to export the Islamic revolution — and to gain what they can from their Western hostages while they still have a value.

The Syrians are prepared to intervene with the British and Americans to urge them to talk to Iran. In this way, and if such talks are successful, President Assad will gain international gratitude when the hostages are freed while maintaining his relationship with Iran. If such negotiations are not fruitful, then the burden of freeing the hostages will once more fall upon Assad himself, who may have to sacrifice his alliance with Khomeini if he is to impose real order in West Beirut and produce those foreign captives.

It is the sort of gamble at which Assad is something of a master, a game whose outcome will affect Anderson, Waite and the other 14 men. Little wonder that the Syrians and the Hezbollah are watching each other with such mutual suspicion in the southern suburbs of Beirut.

T.E. Utley

Whitelaw's doomed legacy



So the people of Northern Ireland, on top of everything else, are to be exposed not just to one more "political initiative" but to two. One of them, obviously the more interesting, has been tentatively mounted by Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, who now hopes to open direct talks with the various Ulster Unionists who, in turn, seem moderately well disposed to talking to him. Any exercise on which Haughey embarks is extremely interesting, because it is likely to be conducted with great ingenuity and because, given adequate intellectual equipment and reasonable political insight, there is some hope of discovering what is actually behind it.

The other "political initiative" now being undertaken is in the hands of Tom King, the Northern Ireland Secretary. It is, for that reason, less interesting, because there is no guarantee that it has any clearly thought out purpose and because one cannot be sure of anything about it except that it is bound to be extremely well-intentioned.

The word "initiative" has a special meaning for Ulstermen and for those of us elsewhere who identify ourselves with the cause of that unhappy province. The "initiative" *par excellence* was, of course, that mounted by William Whitelaw in 1972 after the institution of direct rule.

In the Northern Irish vocabulary "initiative" at that time was not just an abstract noun. It described a grand apparatus of government designed, in the best colonial manner, to lead the benighted people of Northern Ireland back to sanity and truly English moderation.

Whitelaw's substantial figure presided over a vast imported staff. Eminent civil servants, who went over to give Ulster the benefit of years of vast and irrelevant experience; glossy secretaries seconded from the Foreign Office who picked up from their employers a deep sense of mission; and in Belfast, at vast public expense, in Belfast's

top hotel, the Culloden. The girls used to complain bitterly that the cuisine (that particular variety of elaborate, rather stodgy continental food which Ulster produces when it wants to be regarded as sophisticated) was bad for their figures and ruinous to their digestion.

The Unionist populace treated all these representatives of the Raj with deep suspicion. "Who's that pretty girl over there?" one would be asked. "Oh she's The Initiative," one would reply. Voices would instantly become hushed.

As time went on, it became clear that almost the only exception to this suspicion of the "initiative" was the master himself. William Whitelaw did almost everything conceivable to alienate the Unionist community, including talking for a moment to the IRA; yet his popularity as a man seemed to increase rather than diminish. Some attributed this, curiously, to the fact that he was the only major politician to which the

province had been exposed — apart from Edward Heath. Heath had become the yardstick by which the sensitivity of British politicians to Ulster's feeling was measured.

Others said that Whitelaw's miraculous popularity was due largely to the fact that he was not tainted by temperance, and to his extraordinary gift for making convincing apologies after perpetrating horrible mistakes. The truth was that his popularity was the result of his outstanding well-kept benignity.

This did not make him a successful Northern Ireland Secretary of State; it might, in other circumstances and with the benefit of strong colleagues, have made him a very good British prime minister.

Be that as it may, the great Whitelaw initiative was a flop. It ended by his accomplishing what he had misguidedly set out to achieve — the disintegration of

the Unionist Party — and with that went the political destruction of the most effectively liberal leader that party had ever had, Brian Faulkner. After the Loyalist strike of 1974 had destroyed Whitelaw's power-sharing executive and torn to shreds the Sunningdale Agreement, Ulster's politics became more nearly polarized than ever.

I remember long afterwards a characteristically friendly comment from William Whitelaw about my past disagreements with him. "Utley," he said, "you always told me that I was driving Faulkner too far. My God you were right! But what a damned fool he was to allow himself to be driven!" Well, on that occasion, I was not wholly disarmed.

The disastrous Whitelaw initiative has remained the model for Tory initiatives in Ulster, though none of them has had quite the grandeur of the original gala performance.

Poor Humphrey Atkins had a shot at it, astute James Prior (who came to very sensible

conclusions at the end of his tenure) was unaccountably sold the idea that he could reproduce what was essentially the Whitelaw blueprint successfully by simply adding the adjective "rolling" to the word "devolution". All ended in failure, precisely predictable failure.

Of course, these Tory failures were nothing compared with the grandiose one achieved by hyper-intelligent Merlyn Rees. Instead of trying to discover and mobilize the centre in Northern Irish politics as Whitelaw had done, he set about trying to bring the extremists on both sides together, inventing in the process a concept called "Ulster Nationalism".

He got a short truce with the IRA which produced nearly disastrous consequences and gave that organization even more encouragement than it had ever had from Whitehall during these troubles. Only good solid Roy Mason (the best Ulster Secretary of State we have ever had) avoided initiatives, though

of course he had to mutter about them from time to time.

Well, what will happen to Haughey's "initiative"? If it is to succeed at all the old horse dealer will have to agree to a much weaker Anglo-Irish Agreement than he has got, and this will enrage and alienate John Hume, the leader of the SDLP, who looks to Haughey as champion and protector of the nationalist cause in the North. It is just possible that Haughey will do this because he is not a man of principle for which one must be profoundly grateful when one considers how awful the principles would be if he were).

But on this favourable prognosis what happens to King's initiative in the North? The disappointed Hume will compensate by refusing to take part in any power-sharing devolved arrangement which does not give the Nationalists a real stranglehold on Northern Irish administration; in particular on the conduct of security policy in the North.

But, of course, long before this, the dangers to Unionism in these two initiatives will become apparent, and the only interesting question will be which of the Unionist leaders manages to nip out of the exercise most adroitly, leaving his brother in the ditch. I put my money on Ian Paisley.

During all these years, I and others like me have been very discouraging to all initiatives and I have continually been told I am a cynic who should give them "a fair chance", and that in spite of the fact that I believed on all occasions that to give them such a chance would produce appalling consequences.

The predicted consequences have happened and, when I have presumptuously pointed this out, I have been told I am judging "with hindsight".

However, my shoulders metaphorically speaking, are broad and it would seem to be a pity to interrupt the rhythm of this dance.

Commentary • TONY BLAIR

For boom read bubble

Yesterday's rise in interest rates underlines what is surely one of the great inconsistencies of the Thatcher years: that parsimony in public spending has been accompanied by an unprecedented explosion in personal debt. The one is apparently essential for the sake of prudence; the other, until now at least, subject to infinite Government tolerance.

The irrational nature of such an approach to national finance is becoming ever harder to sustain. What is interesting and new is that just as the overall level of consumer credit starts to alarm the British authorities, so the public as individuals are growing increasingly anxious about whether their own debt is under or out of control.

The Government's problem in managing the economy is of its own making. It has encouraged a huge consumer boom. That, in turn, has caused a huge balance of trade deficit. Previous forecasts of a deficit of £40 billion now look dangerously complacent. So to help exports and hinder imports, the Government needs a weaker pound. But to choke off the credit boom, it brings in higher interest rates. That leaves it in a bizarre situation of trying simultaneously to achieve a lower pound and a higher rate of interest. A by-product of this curious strategy is that Britain has become a paradise for speculators, happy to dip in and out of the currency as industry frets in uncertainty.

There are two other problems. It is not clear, in the short term at least, that levels of consumer credit are sensitive to interest rate rises, and the present difficulties are soon to be compounded when the impact of the Budget's cut in tax rates is fully felt. This will pump even further demand into consumer spending and excite even larger levels of credit growth.

If the Government then makes the mistake of trying to compensate for that by raising interest rates again, the average taxpayer will soon find that what he gained in tax cuts has been wiped out by what he must pay for his mortgage, to say nothing of the enormous burden placed on industry.

By adopting a fiscal strategy that boosts consumption rather than investment the Chancellor has left himself only changes in the exchange rate and interest rate to play with. On the face of it, it is illogical for tax cuts to stimulate consumer debt as opposed to consumer demand, since the more income you keep, the less you should need to borrow. Yet all the indications are that they do. Perhaps as direct taxes fall, people feel richer and more able to borrow. And credit is now far more readily available.

The sheer scale of the credit boom is staggering. In a decade, the number of credit users has doubled; so too has outstanding personal liabilities as a percentage of disposable income. Prac-

tically every month sees a new record set in bank lending. In the two years up to the end of 1987 mortgage lending rose from £128 billion to £183 billion and ordinary consumer debt from £23 billion to over £37 billion. This year (and this is before the tax cuts take effect) there has been an even more dramatic rate of increase with bank and building society lending up 70 per cent in the first quarter of the year on the same period last year.

It is this latter development that should start to make us feel more than a twinge of unease. Everyone loves to show concern about consumer debt in general, but hates to be reminded of their own in particular. Yet for most people the largest component of personal debt is their mortgage and the most important feature of the recent rise in levels of debt is the extent to which the whole market is becoming dependent on the boom in house prices.

One big difference between this boom and earlier ones has been the remarkable regional disparity in the market. The South-east and East Anglia have rocketed. Most of the North and Scotland have barely been touched at all. The economy is thus out of balance in this sense too: parts of the country wonder when the boom will reach them; the rest when it will end.

Of course, predictions that house prices are about to fall have been legion over the past few years and invariably wrong. But it is the degree of the current

rise that is most worrying — over 26 per cent in the last year, according to the Building Societies' Association.

The contours of the market are beginning to resemble a large bubble. There has to be some correlation between the house prices people can afford and the income that they earn. At present, home buyers are probably simply increasing their borrowing as a proportion of their incomes. One hundred per cent mortgages are widely advertised and many banks and building societies are now allowing people to borrow three and four times their income.

The increased borrowing puts pressure on wage levels to repay it. Also, as house prices soar, so does the borrowing that is secured on the home, but used for other consumer spending. The risk is that house owners incur ever larger amounts of debt on the strength of what is essentially asset inflation. If the bubble then were to burst, the consequences would be dire.

There is already mounting evidence of the problems experienced by debt victims as the figures for fuel disconnections, mortgage and rent arrears or County Court summonses indicate. The National Consumer Council said some time ago that debt was the largest consumer issue of the 1980s. The truth of that proposition is being rapidly fulfilled.

The author is Labour MP for Sedgefield.

JUNE 7 ON THIS DAY 1924

C. Colles (1879-1943), our music critic from 1911 until his death, was also responsible for revising the 1927 and 1939 editions of Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians.

A FOOTNOTE ON MOZART

SUGGESTED BY "FIGARO"

A composer of the present day once remarked after listening to Mozart: "I believe if one of us were to write down those very notes they wouldn't sound the same." And we have all fallen into the habit of attributing magic powers to him. The reason is that he makes so little claim for himself. He talks in musical words of one syllable. The notes he writes down are so often just those which anyone might have written and many people have written. He does not, like Bach and Wagner, make us marvel at the fecundity of his invention, or like Beethoven compel admiration by the force of statement which distinguishes a truth from a truism. Four notes of a common chord will serve him for the most animated conversation, whether in opera or symphony. *Figaro* provides a hundred instances.

People have sometimes attempted to account for Mozart's genius in the use of a simple vocabulary by saying that he belonged to the youth of the art: though even while they say it they know that there is no accounting for the unaccountable. They suggest, however, that when tonics and dominants,

arpeggios of common chords and scale passages had not been exploited by the vulgar as they have been since it was easier to give them a real meaning. The argument forgets the extent to which such things had been already exploited in Mozart's day. He lived at the end of a century of Italian opera in which minor composers had passed for major ones and been acclaimed all over Europe for the entertainments they afforded using just such material as he used. Paisiello, Piccini, Salieri remain names because Beethoven wrote variations on a tune by the first, the second contested with Gluck, and the third played a sinister part in Mozart's own career. There are dozens more, like Anfossi and Righini, whose very names only exist for the searchers in musical dictionaries, but who at the time had founded their reputations on the manipulation of all the current figures of speech available.

Mozart had by no means the clear field, the opportunity of doing obvious things first, which his modern successors are apt to imagine for him. Yet of all great composers he seems the most content with the language as he found it. He did less than any to extend it by the invention of a personal idiom. His oratory is of the simplest; he rarely attempts to startle his audience into attention as Haydn loved to do in his naive way and Beethoven did brutally at times. That is why Mozart demands good listening as well as good playing and singing. The careless listener may, one would almost say, come away from Mozart unaware that anything particular had happened. But the closer the listening the greater the reward, and the stronger the feeling that the right thing had been said in the only right way.



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MR KINNOCK'S APOSTASY

Taking the US-Soviet thaw as his opportunity, Mr Kinnock has decided that Labour's former unilateralist defence policy is now "redundant" (his word). The decision has provoked inevitable outrage within the party, but Mr Kinnock was probably wise to confront it sooner rather than later. If Labour is to have a chance at the next election, the dispute cannot be escaped.

By declaring that unilateralism is to be expunged from Labour's agenda and replaced by something which offers a closer connection with political reality, Mr Kinnock has deliberately associated the issue with the challenge to his own leadership — and Mr Roy Hattersley's deputy leadership — by Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer. Assuming they win, Mr Kinnock and Mr Hattersley can now claim that the new defence posture has the implied assent of the party. Even if Mr Hattersley were defeated by his other more likely challenger, Mr John Prescott, this could be taken as a verdict on Mr Hattersley personally, not on defence policy.

As things stand, Labour is still committed by its last manifesto to decommissioning Polaris, cancelling Trident and closing US nuclear bases in Britain. Such a policy would have had disastrous repercussions for Nato and was one of the reasons for Labour's rejection by the voters last June. Since then Mr Kinnock has been working gingerly for a change on pragmatic grounds.

That has not been easy. The manifesto had been a mildly fudged version of an even more extreme unilateralist position laid down by the party conference. Even at the post-election conference last October, the non-nuclear policy was reaffirmed. Although Mr Kinnock and his friends were suggesting that "non-nuclear" could mean something less than unilateral disarmament, the unilateralist mood was clear.

Meanwhile, Mr Kinnock had not abandoned the justification for unilateralism with which he regaled President Reagan and the British voters before the election: that the cost of nuclear weapons prevented adequate spending on conventional forces. But at a meeting of the

Socialist International in Madrid last month, he hinted at a change of policy, declaring that Britain and its allies must maintain defence forces capable of resisting and deterring any potential military threat. Now we have it straight out. Labour need no longer give "something for nothing", as Mr Kinnock now happily describes his old policy. It can trade something for something.

Once again the abiding truth of Labour politics is revealed. Every Labour leader who has achieved real power has had to rise in the party by preaching the gospel of the left, and nobody can preach a gospel convincingly without in some degree believing in it. But each has had to abandon his party's instinctive beliefs in search of power. Mr Kinnock is no exception.

As Mr Benn pointed out yesterday, it is an odd sort of logic for the Labour leader to wish to give up nuclear weapons when the Cold War is at its height and keep them when it is not. Still, it is an illogicality which (unpalatable though it is to Mr Benn) represents a kind of progress. Unhappily, it is not a recipe either for a united party or for a stable government.

Mr Kinnock is managing his party with Wilsonian skill. While interim policy reports are being produced for this year's party conference, defence has been postponed until 1989, by which time it is no doubt hoped that the party will be acclimatised to change. Eventually, however, the unilateral policy that was made by the conference and it remains to be seen whether it can be done.

Mr Kinnock will face storms which are bound to shake further public confidence in the inner nature of the party he leads. Even some on the soft left who accept the need for a modification of defence policy resent his adoption of the Owenite practice of announcing policy first and confronting the matter in the National Executive Committee and the party conference second.

Mr Kinnock can say that the policy must be changed because the world has changed. His chief problem is that his party activists show no sign yet of having changed with it.

THE DEFLATED POUND

Lawsonomics was on display again yesterday with another 0.5 per cent increase in bank base rates to 8.5 per cent — the second rise in four days. The markets should be reassured by the promptness with which recent cuts in interest rates have been reversed now that sterling is no longer the height of fashion.

Still an open question, however, is whether downward pressure on inflation is now sufficient. The Bank of England remarked in its latest *Quarterly Bulletin* three and a half weeks ago that the combination of a stronger currency and lower interest rates was not ideal. It must therefore feel some satisfaction with the new circumstances of a weaker currency and higher interest rates. This is clearly a better combination when exports are weakening and domestic demand remains too strong. But the present combination may still fall some way short of ideal for anyone, including the Bank, concerned about inflation.

The Treasury explained the latest rise in rates as a move to tighten monetary policy. It is self-evident that monetary conditions are now tighter than they were on Friday, but they are not necessarily any tighter than they were before sterling was uncapped on March 7. The pound was then at DM3, nearly 10 pence below its present level, but interest rates were 0.5 per cent higher, at 9 per cent. If counter-inflationary policy was too lax then, it may still be too lax now.

A comparison with policy last summer is even more striking. At the beginning of August, the Chancellor surprised the markets by raising base rates from 9 per cent to 10 per cent — a full 1.5 per cent above their present level — in order to curb inflationary pressures in the economy. The average value of the pound was then somewhat lower, exerting less downward pressure on inflation. But house prices were rising more slowly than they are now; the balance of payments deficit was smaller and

the money supply was growing within its target range.

With hindsight, it might have been better to raise interest rates by a full 1 per cent last week rather than in two stages of 0.5 per cent each. The impact of interest rate changes on expectations derives not only from their cumulative size but from the way in which they are implemented — from their shock effect. The caution of the authorities is understandable, however, in the face of the dramatic swings in exchange rates. The change in sentiment with regard to sterling was not as clear then as it is now. Even now, poor US trade figures next week could switch attention away from the dollar again — to the benefit, perhaps, of the pound.

Over time, the Chancellor is probably correct to believe that linking sterling to the Deutschmark will prove a good counter-inflationary strategy. The President of the West German Bundesbank, Herr Karl-Otto Poehl, reiterated his determination to maintain a strong Mark only last weekend. Although the increasingly volatile movements in exchange rates make the pursuit of a stable exchange rate more difficult, exchange rate stability is still the best available monetary policy in an imperfect world.

In choosing the mix of exchange rate strength and interest rates, however, the Chancellor must not lose sight of his commitment to reduce inflation eventually to zero. Keeping the exchange rate stable is a good policy if stability is at the right level and if it is accompanied by appropriate counter-inflation policies in the rest of the world. Progress in bringing inflation permanently down below the 4 per cent level of recent years has been slow to non-existent. A further rise in interest rates may be necessary before the Government can be confident of bringing inflation down another notch.

THE DUKE'S DILEMMA

California, the golden state, will probably crown Mr Michael Dukakis the Democratic Party's presidential candidate, as Americans vote in the last four primaries today. But the man who is most likely to come second, the Rev Jesse Jackson, could determine whether he enters the Oval Office.

The staying power of Mr Jackson during the marathon of the primaries has made him a more impressive candidate than he looked at the outset. He has made it known that he would like to be rewarded with the chance of running alongside Mr Dukakis for the vice-presidency.

Should Mr Dukakis take on Mr Jackson, he will take on a partner whose position is well to the left of his party's platform. Should he say no, he will risk alienating the powerful black electorate. On such calculations are political leaders made or broken.

Mr Dukakis has to capture the middle ground if he is going to win the presidency. So doing was President Reagan's success in so doing which brought him his overwhelming victory four years ago. However liberal he tries to appear to minority groupings, pragmatism and moderation are the qualities which will count most for a Democratic candidate in the end. The question which Mr Dukakis has to answer is how heavily he must depend on Mr Jackson.

As an ethnic Greek whose forebears were poor immigrants, he has a liberal reputation of his own. Mr Jackson might invoke the memory of Mr Robert Kennedy, assassinated 20 years ago yesterday. But it is Mr Dukakis who more closely reflects that image of Boston liberalism. He has also spent time courting black Americans, though so far with little obvious success — except in his own state of Massachusetts. Once Mr Jackson has departed, the poor,

whose cause he has so vigorously espoused, have no clear alternative to Mr Dukakis. Mr George Bush, the Republican nominee, remains the heir presumptive of President Reagan. Mr Bush may try to distance himself from the less glowing of the present President's achievements, but he still represents a tradition well to the right of Mr Dukakis.

Even in California, which has voted Republican in eight of the last nine presidential elections, Mr Dukakis is comfortably ahead of Mr Bush in the opinion polls. Ten years since Proposition 13, the referendum which cut excessive state spending, Californians are said to be viewing favourably the prospect of more public control and environmental care.

Mr Dukakis has been very circumspect so far about his running mate, pointing out that any vice-president should be worthy of the presidency itself. That may be a tactful way of explaining why he does not want Mr Jackson. But he might feel obliged to adopt some of Mr Jackson's policies — thus buying the support of his most formidable rival who, whatever his electoral deficiencies, must now be reckoned a powerful party figure.

How far Mr Dukakis needs to do this is one of the indicators he might look for in the results of today's four primaries. In California, for instance, the rapidly rising population of Hispanics, blacks and Asians have a poor turnout record in elections. If minorities throughout the United States became seriously disaffected with both candidates, they might simply stay at home. In an election which promises to be close, this could be disastrous for Mr Dukakis. How well they respond today, both for Mr Jackson and for himself, could determine how "the Duke" solves his dilemma.

Implications of Rowntree bids

From Mr James Cunningham
Sir, In your issue of May 26 you give the text of Lord Young's statement explaining his reasons for not referring the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission:

... the main consideration is the effect of the merger on competition. Neither of these proposals raises competition issues which justify a reference. Nestlé and Suchard have only 3 per cent and 2 per cent, respectively, of the UK chocolate market.

That may be valid so far as existing competition is concerned, but it does not take account of the future, of potential competition.

Nestlé and Suchard are apparently each prepared to pay over £2 billion to acquire the Rowntree brands. If each were unable to acquire those Rowntree brands, each would be forced to build up its own competing brands. Even if each spent only one half of what each is prepared to pay for Rowntree, that would be an enormous stimulus to competition in the chocolate market and so benefit consumers.

One is forced to the conclusion that our present merger policy is deficient, if it does not permit investigation of possible future competition.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. CUNNINGHAM,
43 Foxes Dale,
Blackheath, SE3.
May 27.

From Mr W. T. Hutton
Sir, Every true Briton must share Sir Hector Laing's concern (article, *Business and Finance*, June 2) about the fate of so many of our finest companies is now virtually dependent on the whims of a mere handful of institutional managers.

While Sir Hector rightly does not call for any remedial change in our capital system, Government must surely realise that the concentration of effective power in so few hands is a denial of democratic control and a measure of the extent to which monopoly power can distort the market.

Within a few years Government may well have surrendered both authority and influence in the matter of employee and customer protection. The Department of Trade and Industry would, of course, be largely redundant but this would be only a small saving against the irreparable loss to the national interest.

Yours faithfully,
W. T. HUTTON,
8 Sutherland Avenue,
Peters Wood,
Oxprington, Kent.
June 2.

From Mr A. T. Grove
Sir, About one half of the world's supply of cocoa comes from smallholders in four West African countries: Ivory Coast, Ghana, Cameroon and Nigeria. The first three are very dependent on income from this commodity; all four are in sore need of foreign exchange.

Have seen the price of cocoa decline steadily since the beginning of the year to about 50 pence per lb.

The world price for coffee, on which Ivory Coast, Cameroon and many other African countries, above all Ethiopia and Uganda, rely for foreign exchange, is at a similar low level. Coffee and cocoa are each worth about £1 billion to Africa, a considerable sum in comparison with its income from aid and other sources.

The livelihood of hundreds of thousands of Africans may depend on the conduct of the companies involved in the current bids by Nestlé and Suchard for Rowntree. Yours faithfully,
A. T. GROVE,
Downing College,
Cambridge.
May 31.

Weather — or not?

From Councillor Mrs Pat Dean
Sir, Before the last two public holidays weather forecasters have foretold of heavy rain in the south of England. In fact, we in Poole have had a very sunny weekend on both occasions, as the holiday-makers on our golden sands will affirm.

I am forced to the conclusion that these inaccurate forecasts are given in an attempt to dissuade people from travelling south, thus reducing congestion on the roads. Fortunately it would appear, from the number of visitors we have had, that others like myself have seen through this ploy!

Yours faithfully,
PAT DEAN,
52 Branksome Court,
Western Road,
Canford Cliffs,
Poole, Dorset.
May 31.

Church and Tories

From Professor J. F. Pickering and Canon Michael Wilson
Sir, Your leader, "Minds made up", on June 1 refers to a letter signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Church of England Board for Social Responsibility. As members of that board we wish to make it clear that the contents of the letter have not been discussed with the board and consequently can only be assumed to represent the views of the signatories to it.

Yours faithfully,
J. F. PICKERING,
MICHAEL WILSON,
30 Huxley Drive,
Bramhall, Cheshire.
June 1.

Coping with casualties of war

From Dr Anthony Hopkins

Sir, Major-General Sir John Hackett (June 3) and Mrs Rosemary Calder-Smith — "Sophie's" mother — (June 4) have written in your columns of their displeasure and distress about the film *Tumbledown*, a record of the difficulties and disappointments suffered by Robert Lawrence, wounded in the Falklands war. I know none of those concerned, nor have I seen Mr Lawrence professionally, but I believe that the following point should be made.

The effects of a brain injury are quite different from those of injuries, however severe, that affect other organs. By their very nature, brain injuries affect emotion, judgement, social control and, not least, insight.

The relatives of those severely brain-injured by car and motor-cycle accidents in civilian life will bear testament to the difficulties they face in helping the brain-injured person retain some semblance of normal social integration.

It is meaningless therefore to "blame" Mr Lawrence for the way he has presented his life since his wounding, any more than it is sensible to blame a man for having a wooden leg.

Criticism of any lack of balance in *Tumbledown* should be directed at the producers, who should have

been aware of these aspects, rather than at Mr Lawrence.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY HOPKINS,
Department of Neurological Sciences,
St Bartholomew's Hospital,
West Smithfield, EC1.
June 5.

From Mr A. G. L. Lowe
Sir, When I was started in 1939 I was a Territorial gunner officer. In August, 1944, while with an attacking infantry company in Normandy, I was severely wounded in the face.

By the genius of the surgeon, the late Sir Harold Gillies, over a period of four years and about 50 operations I was mended and back in the world.

Mutilated and unable to speak, but terrified of pity, I broke my engagement, and for many months it was hard to endure the embarrassed stares of people confronted with disfigurement.

None the less, it never occurred to me to complain, as so many of my friends were dead and, by comparison with the dreadful scars of the burned airmen and tank crews, I was fortunate.

I think Robert Lawrence, by comparison with others, has been fortunate, and he should, like me, thank God that he is still alive.

Yours faithfully,
AUGUSTUS LOWE,
Folly Cottage,
Puddington, Cheshire.

this are social and not medical.

Medical indications for testing for HIV infection in pregnancy are as clear as they are for rubella and syphilis. It is the need to know for the patients' benefit. Present social mores about HIV infection and Aids are denying the sufferers themselves the right to understanding and care.

That there is no cure is irrelevant to understanding and knowledge. Without those two the search for a cure will be delayed. The need is therefore for a change in social attitudes, not medical ones.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP RHODES,
Fairford House,
Lyndhurst Road,
Brockenhurst, Hampshire.
May 27.

Aids testing

From Professor Emeritus Philip Rhodes

Sir, Anonymous testing for HIV infection will increase understanding of its epidemiology. But clinical practice requires that as much as possible should be known about the individual patient. Epidemiological evidence does not help with this. To know what is wrong with a patient, tests have to be done which can be related to the particular person.

In ante-natal care a battery of tests is carried out on blood in order that the health care professionals may properly and promptly treat the mother and her foetus and child. Yet, presently, on grounds of consent and confidentiality, the testing for HIV infection is being denied. The reasons for

Solicitors in court

From Mr Neil Addison

Sir, With all due respect to Lord Denning, his article of May 24 ("Divided we stand") calls for factual corrections. First, Lord Denning notes that the barrister's wig and gown betoken learning and courtesy, the solicitor's plain suit betokens nothing. In fact, barristers wear "plain" suits in exactly the same courts as solicitors — i.e., magistrates courts, tribunals etc. — and both solicitors and barristers robe in the county court, before the European Court of Justice and on the few occasions where solicitors are able to appear in the crown court and high court.

Second, Lord Denning states that "the paramount duty of a barrister is to assist the court... a solicitor is bound to do all he honestly can to win". This is simply wrong. Comparison of *The Code of Conduct of the Bar* and *The Professional Conduct of Solicitors* will show that both professions owe an equal duty of honesty and integrity to the courts before which they appear.

Sign of the cross

From Mr John A. Lane

Sir, Mr Frank Richards (June 2) appears to have overlooked the fact that for every vehicle involved in a fatal accident at one of the spots he suggests designating, there will have been many thousands — perhaps millions — of vehicles driven over the same spot in complete safety.

Nearly all accidents involving road vehicles are caused by bad driving. The only realistic way of improving safety on the roads would be to require more appropriate qualifications of those to whom driving licences are issued; introduce compulsory retraining of offenders who had revealed potentially dangerous driving techniques; and impose exemplary penalties on drivers who indulge in the more lethal forms of bad behaviour, such as drunken or reckless driving.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. LANE,
Springfield, Grove Park,
Stratton, Bude, Cornwall.

Fox Talbot year

From the President of the Royal Photographic Society and others

Sir, Next year, 1989, will be the 150th anniversary of the public announcement of the invention of photography by an Englishman, William Henry Fox Talbot. It is an anniversary which we believe deserves recognition in the form of a special commemorative postage stamp, particularly as the photographic process plays such a vital part in the production of postage stamps. All suggestions to this effect have been turned down by the Post Office, even though it is true that they have offered alternative ways of marking the anniversary.

Celebrations to mark the anniversary will be held throughout the year and in many countries. It is especially ironic that in France, stamps have in the past been issued honouring Louis Daguerre, who also announced the invention of a photographic process in 1839 but whose process became obsolete long ago — unlike that of the Englishman, Fox

Finally, Lord Denning praises a "fearless and courageous" Bar. "If there were fusion... that strength and independence would be gone". By what evidence does Lord Denning form this view? Canada and the United States, Victoria and New Zealand, to name but a few, all have fused professions.

Are these professions inferior in learning, ability, fearlessness or independence to England? There is not one jot of evidence to suggest that they are. On the contrary, all evidence suggests that fused professions retain all the virtues Lord Denning praises so eloquently.

Lord Denning began his article by referring to the 18th century. It was an appropriate choice. All arguments for retaining two legal professions are ultimately rooted in the attitudes and social structure of the past not the future.

Yours faithfully,
NEIL ADDISON
(barrister at law),
5 Garsdale Road,
Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear.

Mortgage relief

From Mr M. J. Gilbert

Sir, Mr Kirwan (May 30) hits the nail on the head when he points out that the injustice of mortgage tax relief does not lie in the relief itself but in the fact that it violates the central principle of taxation that relief on expenditure must be set against the taxable income to which that expenditure applies and in this case that income is the benefit of owner occupation.

The difficulty, of course, lies in the assessment of this imputed income. As Mr Kirwan indicates, it ought to be related to the rent, net of maintenance and improvements, which the owner occupier could expect to receive if he let it on the open market. However, successive governments for reasons of doctrine or short-term expediency, have effectively destroyed the private housing rental market in this country and with it any satisfactory basis of assessment.

None the less, houses are readily bought and sold and there is

Talbot, which remains the basis of photography as we know it today.

Fox Talbot was a great man and his invention is something of which Britain should be proud. The opportunity to proclaim that pride by the issue of a special commemorative stamp will not occur again for a long time.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR DOWNS (The Royal Photographic Society),
T. F. ASTILL (National Pharmaceutical Association),
RON BRIMMON (Association of Fashion, Advertising and Editorial Photographers),
COLIN BUCK (Master Photographers Association),
KEITH HARRIS (Association of Photographic Laboratories),
R. J. LUFF (British Photographic Importers Association),
LIONEL MORRISON (National Union of Journalists),
JIM TAMPIN (British Institute of Professional Photography),
JOHN WILLIS (Institute of Journalists),
The Octagon,
Milsom Street,
Bath, Avon.
May 31.

Standard of GCSE maths

From Dr J. Shaw

Sir, The much heralded and publicised GCSE examinations are now in progress and I waited eagerly for the first papers in mathematics.

After some 25 years teaching at London University and now after early retirement teaching mathematics at a local independent school I was appalled to see the standard of questions set. At the basic level the questions are banal; in the extreme, e.g. use a calculator to find 3.12×4.36 (and this on paper!).

A number of papers are illustrated with photographs of packets of sweets, children in a paddling pool, etc. which are hardly relevant. The higher-level papers are straightforward and certainly not particularly testing.

Standards have without doubt fallen, despite assurances from the various authorities that this is not so, and can only exacerbate a situation which has been felt at university for some time, that children wishing to follow a career where mathematics is an essential requirement are being inadequately prepared at basic level.

The new GCSE may enable average and below average ability pupils to obtain a grade but it does a grave disservice to those who wish to continue in further education. It is these pupils who are so necessary for the future development of our scientific and engineering industries.

Yours faithfully,
J. SHAW,
Golygha Hyffryd,
Old Llanfair Road,
Harlech,
Gwynedd.
May 27.

Choir losses

From Mr Andrew N. Fairbairn

Sir, Your correspondent's report (May 20) on the annual conference of the Choir Schools' Association is timely, and draws attention to the decline in choral singing in schools and most especially in the near-disappearance of boy trebles from parish church and school choirs. The problem lies in the schools and the churches, and must be tackled jointly by them, at least in some pilot areas.

Except for out-of-school-hours choirs in some secondary schools, choral work has virtually disappeared from the secondary curriculum. GCSE has not helped (as we hoped it would) and the relegation of music to one period a week in the national curriculum will certainly not help. The supply of tenors and basses for the future, is going to be reduced drastically, unless action is taken now.

The British Federation of Young Choirs hopes shortly to circulate a questionnaire country-wide to find out the facts. In the meantime, we would like to know of incumbents and parochial church councils who would be interested in using the federation's good offices to help forge choral links with local schools — hopefully to mutual benefit.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW N. FAIRBAIRN
(Hon Secretary, British Federation of Young Choirs),
Loughborough Technical College,
Radmoor,
Loughborough,
Leicestershire.
May 25.

therefore no difficulty in arriving at an acceptable capital value which could be used instead. Moreover, since the value would be short of improvements, it would incorporate a reflection of the capitalised value of public services enjoyed by the owner thus relieving the tax to the benefit received.

The rating system is an approximate, and currently the only, attempt to collect the public income which accrues to all property and which untaxed is capitalised into the price. Its replacement by the poll tax will therefore necessarily raise domestic house prices still higher and distort the market further.

Yours sincerely,
M. J. GILBERT,
Michael Gilbert Associates,
116 Wood Street,
Barnet, Hertfordshire.

From Mr S. B. Tress

Sir, Mr Kirwan's letter appears to advocate a return to the Schedule A income tax which was introduced in 1802, and lasted until 1963. Older readers will remember that the tax was levied on net annual values (which corresponded with rateable values). The legislation provided for tenants to pass on the charge to landlords.

In its final years, the tax was under attack from all sides. The main ground for criticism was that it was a tax on national incomes. Presumably the reasons for its abolition in 1963 would militate against its reintroduction now.

Yours sincerely,
S. B. TRESS,
34 Shelley Gardens,
North Wembley, Middlesex.

All the elevens

From Mrs Patricia M. Young

Sir, I am interested in Mrs McGroar's letter (May 30). I was born in 1911, married in 1933; my daughter was born in 1944 and is 44 today. My husband and I celebrated our 35th wedding anniversary last week and I shall be 77 next month.

Yours truly,
PATRICIA M. YOUNG,
143 Cranmer Court, SW3.
May 31.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

June 6: The Queen this evening honoured with her presence the Royal Gala Night of Ballet in celebration of the 90th Birthday of Dame Ninette de Valois at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, in aid of the Royal Ballet School Appeal.

The Duchess of Grafton was in attendance. The Duke of Edinburgh this morning opened the British Nuclear Fuels Visitors' Centre at Sellafield and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cumbria (Sir Charles Graham, Bt) and the Chairman, British Nuclear Fuels PLC (Mr. Christopher Harding).

His Royal Highness later visited the British Gas Barron-in-Furness Terminal to inaugurate the gas pipeline and subsequently visited the offshore Gas Platform in Morecambe.

The Duke of Edinburgh travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight and was received on arrival by the Chairman of British Gas (Sir Denis Rooke).

Mr. Brian McGrath was in attendance. The Duke of Edinburgh, Master, this evening attended the dinner for Younger Brethren at Trinity House.

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance. The Duchess of York this morning visited the Painshill Park Trust, Esher, and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Surrey (Mr. Richard Thornton) and the Chairman of the Trust, Mr. Frank Giles.

Miss Helen Hughes was in attendance. The Princess Royal this evening attended a dinner at the Institute of Directors, Fall Mall, London SW1.

Mrs. Charles Ritchie was in attendance. By Command of The Queen, the Lord Beaverbrook (Lord, in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon upon the arrival of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Mrs. Mwinyi, and welcomed them on behalf of Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE June 6: The Prince of Wales, President, The Princess of Wales, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, this evening attended a Rock Concert in aid of the Trust at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7.

Their Royal Highnesses subsequently attended a reception at the Hilton International Kensington Hotel, 179 Holland Park Avenue, London W11.

Mrs. Alexandra Lloyd and Major Christopher Lavender were in attendance. The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of the Royal Ballet, this evening attended a Gala Night of Ballet in celebration of the 90th birthday of Dame Ninette de Valois at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, in aid of the Royal Ballet School Appeal.

Mrs. Jane Stevens was in attendance. THATCHED HOUSE LODGE June 6: Princess Alexandra and the Hon. Angus Ogilvy were present at a Mid-Summer Dinner and Musical Evening held in aid of the British Association of Cancer United Patients (BACUP), at the Mansion House.

Mrs. Peter Afia was in attendance. School news Westminster Cathedral Choir School.

The annual concert of Westminster Cathedral Choir School will be held as usual at St John's, Smith Square, on Wednesday, July 6, after the distribution of prizes at 7.30 pm by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. Old boys of the school who would like to attend are asked to apply to the Headmaster for tickets by June 17.

Luncheon Royal Warrant Holders Association Commander and Alderman Sir Robin Gillett, Lord Mayor of London, was the guest of honour at the annual luncheon of the Royal Warrant Holders Association held yesterday at London Hilton on Park Lane. Mr John Marks, president, was in the chair.

Dinner Tyack & Partners Limited Mr Michael Heseltine, MP, was the principal guest at a dinner given last night by Tyack & Partners Limited at Boodle's Club in London for members of the banking and financial services industry.

The electronic publishing and print show Whatever your business, the way your company presents itself on paper is extremely important.

But a lack of time and money often means you have to settle for second best. That's why a visit to this year's Electronic Publishing and Print Show is a must. As the biggest and best exhibition of its kind, it's the only place where you'll be able to see and compare the complete range of corporate publishing solutions - everything from desk top publishing to newspaper publishing systems.

So whether you're producing a simple in-house report, promotional literature for your company or even a full scale technical manual, make sure you visit EP first. Phone Debbie Gales before Friday 10 June for FREE TICKETS on 01-868 4466

The show is open between 10am and 6pm except for Thursday when it will close at 4.30pm.

14-16 June 1988 Wembley Exhibition Centre

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The other long running London thriller

By Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent

While Agatha Christie's *Mousetrap* is entering its 36th year on the West End stage, Peter Palumbo's *Planning Trap* is in its 26th year and daily performances of this City thriller are showing in an annex to the Guildhall. What's more, the seats are free, the plot no less complex and the characters equally theatrical.

The public inquiry into Mr Palumbo's £260 million plan to demolish eight listed buildings - and others - on a triangular site of little more than an acre next to Mansion House and the Bank of England, and replace them with one new building by the architect Mr James Stirling, is now at the halfway stage.

Mr Brian Bagot, the Department of

the Environment's amiable inspector, is presiding over the five-week proceedings in which Mr Palumbo's camp, led by Sir Frank Layfield, QC, is pitted against the City Corporation, English Heritage, ten conservation groups and some retail traders.

The *Times*' report on the first day of the inquiry likened Mr Palumbo to David facing the Goliaths ranged against him. This brought a curt response from Ms Sophie Andrews, chairman of Save Britain's Heritage, to the effect that the underdog's QC was likely to earn as much for his brief as Save received in donations in a year. That may be, but wealth is not a sin, poverty not a virtue and English Heritage, which is fighting alongside Save, has access to considerable public funds.

Although the opponents' case has yet to be heard in detail, and the cross-examination of expert witnesses they present yet to be savoured, the essential arguments can be stated: that the site should be allowed to build a modern building or be preserved - no one can force him - to refurbish the existing buildings behind their facades.

Put another way, the real issue is whether the architectural shape of things to come should be allowed to triumph over the comfortable past - Post-Modernism over Conservation.

The last inquiry, exactly four years ago, became a cause célèbre because the Prince of Wales intervened, dismissing Mr Palumbo's then current scheme, by the late Miss van der Rohe, as "a giant glass stump better suited to downtown Chicago than to the City of London", and later, because of the active lobbying of the Prime Minister, whose involvement had it been reflected in the Secretary of State's final decision, would have been technically illegal.

But today the ghost of Miss van der Rohe is laid to rest. Chicago is to be built at Canary Wharf in Docklands instead, and the Prince has

turned his sights on the plans for Paternoster Square, next to St Paul's Cathedral, which will go on public display in a fortnight.

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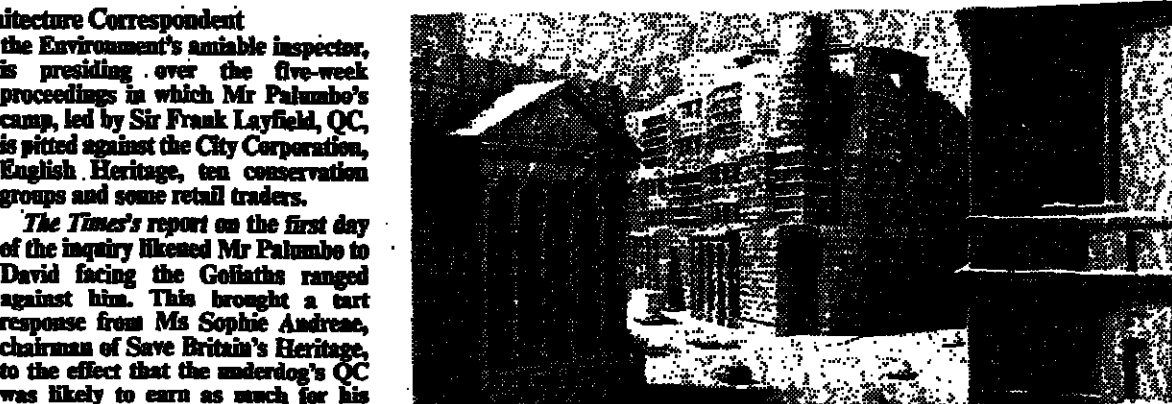
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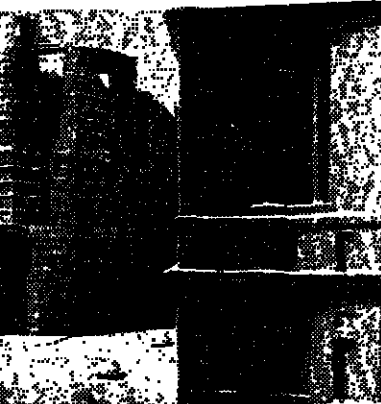
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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Testing but fun

Would a young man who claimed to read *The Times* in order to impress people, but really read the *Sun*, make a good naval officer? In *Horizon* (BBC 2) the examination board was divided on this question.

The civilian headmaster took a stern view of the deception, while the senior officers fell for the candidate's charm and were tempted to ignore his poor intelligence test results as well as his frayed moral fibre.

The two-day test process itself was evaluated on forms designed to compensate for this human weakness for likeable candidates with no technical aptitude, the Navy having found this partially expensive in terms of a high drop-out rate at Dartmouth. Trust the senior service to do a proper job.

As this enjoyable ramble through modern psychological testing continued, we visited a Midlands steel-forgings company with the obverse of the Navy's problem. They had hired a brilliant technical manager without, unfortunately, noticing that he was a pain in the neck.

Meetings were becoming confrontational. Rather than replace the man, at an estimated cost of £50,000, they despatched him to London for psychological assessment and a crash course in emotional literacy, which cost around £2,000.

The programme was less about the tests themselves than the people taking and administering them; in this case, science's loss was entertainment's gain.

What aptitude test would pick the ideal pair of personalities to sail around the Indonesian Archipelago on a half-rotten wooden sailing ship crewed by 16 Bugi seamen, descendants of the legendary pirates of the Eastern seas? Naturally, the brothers Lawrence and Lorne Blair, whose fabulous voyage began in *Adventure* (BBC1) earlier in the evening, fell into the category of person called "mad but marvellous" by Prince Charles. For them, sharing bamboo sleeping mats with bedbugs and cockroaches just added to the thrill of it all.

If their crew decided to put ashore for three months for the Bugis' wedding season, or sacrificed a goat in their cabin before setting sail again, the Blairs kept joyfully for their cameras to record it all. The result promises to be an enthralling batch of programmes, from one of the few cameras of the earth which remains uncorrupted by modern multi-national culture.

Celia Brayfield

John Russell Taylor on the summer shows, headed by a group of Australian artists from the 1940s

**Angry Penguins/
Master Paintings
from the Phillips
Collection,
Washington
Hayward Gallery**

**Ukiyoe
British Museum**

**Art or Nature
Barbican Gallery**

**Ikats
Crafts Council Gallery**

**The Decorative Arts
of Central Asia
Zamana Gallery**

**Rubens in Oxford
Colnaghi**

During the last month, almost unnoticed, the public galleries and museums have been presenting an avalanche of shows to scurry us into summer. Some attempt at a roundup seems to be called for.

Summer shows tend to be on the easy-going side, approachable and hard for anyone totally to dislike. All credit, therefore, to the South Bank Centre for giving us at this time a difficult, demanding and highly rewarding show, *Angry Penguins*, even if they have sugarcoated the pill with the accompanying *Master Paintings from the Phillips Collection*, Washington (until August 14).

The "Angry Penguins" is, in case you are wondering, a group of Australian painters, personal friends rather than a coherent school, who in the Forties found themselves somehow grouped around the magazine of that title, which first appeared in Adelaide in 1940, moved to Melbourne in 1943 and finally expired in 1945. The principal figures were Sidney Nolan, Arthur Boyd and Joy Hester. To these, for the Hayward show, have been added some others, including three contemporary realists, Yosi Bergner, Noel Counihan and Vic O'Connor.



In his Ned Kelly period: "Death of Sergeant Kennedy at Stringybark Creek", 1946, by Sir Sidney Nolan

The central group, despite their denial of any shared theoretical basis for their work, do undoubtedly have a lot in common, and in some parts of the show, like the section where Bruegel-like scenes by Arthur Boyd and John Percival are hung interspersed, they can be difficult to tell apart. They are all, in a manner of speaking, expressionistic in approach, going for the inner truth of a subject rather than its outward reality.

There are obvious similarities with the later European Cobra movement, and some quite uncanny resemblances between, for instance, early Arthur Boyd and current Ken Kiff (which can, incidentally, be appreciated at Fischer Fine Art until June 24). But it is clear that these painters arrived at their own style in their own way, isolated more even than might normally have been the case by the Second World War, and that, famous though their later work has become (particularly that of Nolan and Boyd), the early work probably exercised little or no influence on anything going on elsewhere.

There is no doubting the freshness of impact these paintings of the Forties still have today, or that Nolan at the time of the Ned Kelly paintings, and Boyd in his night-

marish early paintings of ghosts in the psyche, achieved a peak they seldom subsequently equalled.

For most British visitors this will be the first substantial opportunity to become acquainted with Albert Tucker, who seems to be a very interesting and idiosyncratic artist, or with the realists, who on this showing bear some resemblance to the American New Deal painters but have their own quiet strength.

And for more relaxed viewing one can turn to the right on entry, or go straight upstairs, to the Phillips Collection pictures, and appreciate one of those grab-bags of warranted masterpieces, from El Greco and Chardin to Bacon and Rothko, which are intermittently stunning, according to taste, and almost impossible to write about without falling into flower-show listings.

At the British Museum, while the familiar gallery normally given over to the Japanese and the Prints and Drawings collection is being rejigged, the show of Ukiyoe offers "images of unknown Japan" somewhere "buried in the main body of the place. These 'pictures of the floating world', colour woodcuts from the 17th, 18th and

early 19th centuries, are wholly delightful and sometimes unexpectedly forceful as well, as in Sharaku's portraits of actors.

The Japan they present is, of course, unknown only in a period context: the prints date from the years when Japan was very deliberately kept a closed book to the outside world. For us, today, many of the prints, and the whole genre they represent, will be quite familiar from several distinguished shows the museum has presented in recent years from its own resources.

This particular selection also belongs to the museum, and has just come back from a tour of Japan (not so much like carrying coals to Newcastle as it sounds) to help raise funds towards the new Japanese Gallery, which will rise on the site of the old.

The Barbican is not looking so far afield: the major show associated with its "Images de France" season is a quite comprehensive survey of 20th-century French photography, rather elusively entitled *Art or Nature* (until July 17). Of course all of the photographers included reflect art or nature or both, but then, what else does the photographer ever do?

There is, to be fair, some sort of formal divide down the middle, between the photographers we

GALLERIES

might, for want of a better word, call documentary, and those — the Surrealists particularly — who have no truck with the external world directly, but reshape its elements nearer to the heart's desire (or the subconscious mind's fantasy). But then, moving one small stage on, we must find something hallucinatory about the unsparing objects by such photographers as Emmanuel Sougez and Jean-Pierre Sudre.

The normally realist Kertesz indulges from time to time in highly formalized distortions; the surrealist Raoul Hausmann, in pictures like "Nos Dames de Paris", breaks up and reassembles the facets of Notre Dame to produce a surprising equivalent of Delaunay's exploding Cubist Eiffel Towers. Styles melt into one another, and the show, while imparting a great deal of information, turns out to be much more coherent and consistent than one might ever expect.

Two matching shows, Ikats at the Crafts Council Gallery until June 26 and The Decorative Arts of Central Asia at the Zamana Gallery until July 10, celebrate primarily the textile arts of little-known sections of the Islamic world. An ikat is a kind of woven fabric which looks at a glance as though it has been dyed by some process akin to batik, but in fact the intricate, almost psychedelic colour patterns are produced from dyeing the thread in many hues before it is woven.

Much in both shows seems exotic and at the same time curiously familiar, at least for anyone whose memory stretches back to the Swinging Sixties, when this was just the sort of thing errant hippies brought back from Kathmandu. Not, of course, on the whole such tasteful and spectacular examples, though one of the embroideries at the Zamana did apparently belong at the time to a Rolling Stone. The Zamana collection also includes jewellery, woodwork and other items; each makes a brave, reminiscent show.

And finally, a museum-style show at a commercial Bond Street gallery, Ruskin in Oxford, at Colnaghi until June 20, brings down to the metropolis a small but important collection of Rubens drawings, many never before exhibited, which belong to Christ Church and to the Ashmolean.

OPERA IN FRANCE

Pelléas et Mélisande
Nice Opera

Stefanos Lazaridis's set was a tilted white box filled with spheres, whitened branches and walkways for the somnambulating dead, a dreamplay enclosure. It was potently effective, and with characters dressed in 19th-century costume it brought out the *côte d'Azur* in Debussy's masterpiece.

It also offered a stimulating home for the production by Pierre Medecin, now artistic director in Nice. The whole thing was shown as Golaud's dream, with the poor man slumped in a chair in his library at the far left whenever he was not taking part. There was much extra business and unmistakably meaningful symbolism.

Some of this worked well. The three figures Pelléas and Mélisande discover in the sea cave were Golaud, Arkel and Genevieve, posed like an allegorical grouping on a funerary monument, and the great declaration of love came with Pelléas charging into the pool at the centre of the stage. Other gestures seemed forced. It was difficult to believe in an Yniold taking swigs from Golaud's Johnny Walker.

One might question the real/imaginary antithesis introduced by this being Golaud's dream, for Allemonde should be the dream of everyone in the theatre. However, Alan Titus's performance as Golaud was so powerful that he readily seemed more substantial than all the others: in the crucial rage scene he harried his music towards speech, and acted his violence so vigorously that he even got away with the production's substitution of a doll for the real Mélisande at this point.

Then in the last act he was washed-out, quiet and almost stranded in head voice. This was a courageous and thoroughly convincing expressionist Golaud, but also one of much lyrical beauty. Malcolm Walker as Pelléas, though securely in tune, was a little staid and monochrome; the Mélisande was Eliane Manchot (Mme Medecin) and a nameless boy from the Told Choir sang out firmly as Yniold.

But, apart from Titus's Golaud, the main musical distinction was John Carewe's conducting, showing up time and again the lustrous string textures, with a precise clarity that enhanced the atmosphere of a gentle unreality.

This was an orchestra at the service of the drama: rushing or hanging back with the pace of speech or heartbeat, particularly in the Golaud-Yniold scene, and limply accepting the frequent caesuras.

Paul Griffiths

Unafraid of risk

CONCERT

LSO/Tate
Barbican Hall

One goes to concerts hoping not to hear the automaton accuracy that any shiny little disc can supply, but to experience the sort of passionate, intuitive music making which Nigel Kennedy delivered in Elgar's Violin Concerto on Sunday. Every performance Kennedy gives of this emotionally and physically draining masterpiece (which many of the world's top violinists will not touch, alleging its appeal to be too parochial) is an unrepeatable adventure, exhilarating both in its instinctive flexibility and its riskiness.

Not everything succeeds on a technical level, but that is not essential. Kennedy goes right to the Concerto's heart. He plunges feverishly through the quick passagework, particularly at the end, which seems like an exorcism

of all the shadowy yearnings uncovered in the stillness of the sublime cadenza. Yet he invests the slow melodies with the most tender nuances.

In this gloriously unpredictable mood Kennedy is not the easiest of soloists to accompany, and Jeffrey Tate did well to keep the London Symphony Orchestra more or less in touch with the latest tempo change. But the accompaniment did in places sound lumpy. The same textural clumsiness, and the lack of a single real piano, had earlier upset the carefully calculated instrumental balance of George Benjamin's *Ringed by the Flat Horizon*.

Orchestra and conductor were on sharper form for a performance of Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* which featured "a new translation by John Amis". I think the term translation may be wrong, but no matter. Amis's new text — ringingly declaimed by Simon Callow — combined wit and information in engaging style.

Richard Morrison

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THEATRE

The Murphy Girls
Drill Hall Arts

Brid Murphy returns from exile in London for a short visit to her family in the Falls Road, Belfast: she is in her mid-thirties, a teacher, living with an English boyfriend. Her elder sister, Aine, teaches at the Dominican convent where as girls they were warned to avoid occasions of sin. Her younger sister, Caitlin, is gaily reproducing, hoping to overcome the Protestant majority by superior birth rate.

Perhaps the first thing you notice about Seamus Finnegan's play, and which sets it apart from most writing about Northern Ireland, is its quiet, unhectored, almost gentle tone. Violence is not ignored (it could hardly be), but as the play's partly Chekhovian ancestry might suggest, its main concern is the individual human being, not the political message.

There is also something attractively old-fashioned about Finnegan's writing: the dialogue is beautifully constructed — characters even speak at times in paragraphs, not just minimal sub-sentences. The point is that they are speaking to one another, for one of the odder things about Northern Ireland is that, in a place torn by intestine strife, personal relationships seem often rather than in England.

At the centre of the play is Brid, made to look back to the Belfast Spring of her adolescence in 1968, doused by the nuns' sexual repression and then truncated by the coming of the British troops in 1969. She is thoughtful, individualist, something of a loner — as it seems, anyone from the Falls Road who believes that Ireland's greatest enemy is not the British, but the Roman Catholic church, must be.

Gerardine Hinds most sensitively conveys her sense of not fitting in, of being a stranger both in London and Belfast, together with an inner strength of self-reliance which her sisters do not possess, and an unexpected feisty humour. It is a beautifully inward performance: just at times the voice drops too low for effective projection.

Good, solid, support comes from Jenny Bolt as Caitlin, rejoicing in her fertility (but unfortunately lumbered with a ventriloquist's doll for a baby), Kate O'Connell, sweet, stately and resigned as Aine, and James Greene as their narrow-minded Republican father. Julia Pascal directs.

Harry Eyres

Basic appraisal

Scottish Accents
Traverse, Edinburgh

The Traverse gets more worthwhile scripts in a year than it can afford to produce. This year they have made space for four more than usual by paying rehearsal time and staging in the hope. The resulting *Scottish Accents* series showcases four writers.

John Merryfield has already won an award for earlier work and *The Way We Were* was undoubtedly the most sophisticated before, structurally and linguistically. A ruthless copine buys up an old house from a domineering father and his idiot son. It touches obliquely on family relationships, greed, fear of old age and guilt. The scenes of early Pinter are deftly Merryfield, for all his technical skill, has still to find his own voice.

Anne-Marie "di Mambro" in Sheila, shows once again her sure touch and good ear for comic dialogue. A blue-stocking student has her work invaded by decorators, who soon show her that essays and philosophy lectures. The older one continuously surprises the economics student by demonstrating that he is not the simple hony-handed son of toil she had assumed. Anyone who can make a satisfying and amusing two hours from such a simple premise is worth watching.

Paula MacGee's *Both Hands Together* wants to get at something deeper: friendship between women from childhood to motherhood. Her characters, Dorothy

and Grace, whip through 15 or 20 years in a succession of quickly changing scenes. Circumstances shift the privilege from one to the other halfway through, but in the end they share the experience of bearing children. MacGee introduces several of her own songs, a device which is marred by the casting of two actresses whose singing talents are ill-matched. But the ups and downs of the relationship are well handled.

The most enthusiastic welcome must be reserved for John McKay's *Dead Dad Dog*, an hilarious caper in which a young man about to embark on the best day of his life — keenly awaited interview followed by date with new girlfriend — is rudely interrupted by the return of his father, who has been dead these 12 years and who commits the unpardonable sin, for a ghost, of being visible to all.

Quite apart from some terrific one-liners, the play serves as an alarming reminder of how much has changed in the last 12 years almost without our noticing it. McKay manages to keep control of the running gag, so that he can bring the play to a meaningful rather than an arbitrary end. All four plays gain considerably from the care and attention lavished on them by Traverse directors, designers and actors. In *Dead Dad Dog*, Stephen Urelin directed joyously comic performances from Ralph Riach and Sam Graham, who had more fun with four chairs and a change of clothes each than anybody has a right to expect.

Robert
Dawson Scott

Forget the story

OPERA

The Electrification
of the Soviet Union
Glyndebourne

Premiered last autumn by Glyndebourne Touring Opera and televised in March, Nigel Osborne's Pasternak-inspired opera has now graduated to the main festival before travelling to Berlin for the city's celebrations in September.

Peter Sellars has returned to rework his original production. The disconcertingly shifting wall, the cinematic edits and cross-cutting, the splintered and oblique images remain. They are a visual realization of the episodic structure of Craig Raine's drama, sometimes colliding, sometimes meshing with Osborne's powerful, often luscious score.

But, obviously responding to the bewilderment of audiences previously thrown by the flashbacks within flashbacks and the spliced relationships, Sellars has provided us with — guess what? — surtitles. Cryptic phrases on the wall tell us whether it is pre-revolutionary or pre-war Russia, whether anyone is knocking or not (to ribald post-punk laughter), and whether it is raining or snowing.

For an audience trained in conventional linear plots, it all helps: though whether one can honestly claim to be better entertained or more enlightened to the human



Well observed: Omar Ebrahim

condition at the end of it all is another question. Left free to focus less on plot, more on event, significance and sound, there is, at least, more for the ear to enjoy in Elgar Howarth's mastery direction of the score. At its lowest level, it exists as a highly efficient mosaic of sophisticated mood-music; at its highest, it lives as a malleable, richly lyrical and very English vehicle for moments of human insight, which, in true operatic tradition, far outstrip the often crass and self-conscious libretto.

The acting performances are as powerful as ever. Henry Herford's tense Pasternak, Omar Ebrahim's outstandingly observed Serezhia and Elizabeth Laurence's beautifully sung Anna, are now joined by Helen Williams rising from the Chorus to take over at short notice Anna Steiger's role of Sasha, and Hyacinth Nicholls confident and accomplished as Natasha.

Hilary Finch

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The human dimension of business



Sir Pat Lowry, institute president: "We need to set up peer groups to help specialists as well as generalists"

For personnel managers, the celebration of the institute's 75th anniversary today represents something of a coming of age. Though there have been several such commemorative events in the past — the Duke of Edinburgh, the patron, has personally participated in a fifth and a sixth — a greater air of self-assurance and authority is evident now than, for instance, in 1963 or 1973.

This is partly because of external economic factors and partly because of the profession's own moves to inject a sense of strategic direction into its development. It is helped by a sound financial base and rising membership levels.

In 1981 the institute purchased the freehold of what is now IPM House on Wimbledon Common in south-west London.

Operating revenues have been boosted by expansion in revenue from recruitment advertising and in demand for conferences and courses which together account for more than half the total turnover to yield a surplus, which in 1986-87 totalled more than £1 million. Membership totals have climbed to an estimated 34,000 this year, almost double those at the start of the decade.

The recent comparative affluence has led to warnings about complacency — personnel specialists are more prone than most managers to periodic bouts of self-criticism. However, approval in principle was given by the institute's council last month to several recommendations which should help the implementation of an earlier strategic decision to go for growth rather than consolidation.

Changes include widening the membership criteria, which was hitherto geared towards practitioners with all-round qualifications to attract specialists. "We have to reflect the general move towards greater specialization," comments Sir Pat Lowry, the president, who chaired the strategy study group that drew

A new sense of confidence marks another milestone for the personnel managers

up the recommendations. We need to provide the sort of information and services possibly through setting up peer groups which will help specialists as well as generalists.

Otherwise, the temptation is for splinter organizations to arise and the last thing we want to see is fragmentation of the industry.

Sir Pat, who was formerly chairman of Acas (the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service) and before that personnel director of British Leyland, emphasizes that modern business pressures bring a greater requirement for organizations involved with different aspects of human resource management to work together on issues like management education.

He also wants to see closer liaison between the institute and academic institutions in, for instance, the coordination of research projects and improved information and training facilities.

Development of the personnel function in the organizations of the future will depend on how well institute members identify with overall business aims. Sir Pat says: "Even if it means an apparent loss in their status, personnel specialists need to accept that responsibility for people as a resource lies with line-management."

One of the arguments in favour of a change in title to that of human resource management is that the description "personnel" is resented by many chief executives.

They identify it with unhappy memories of reaction to strikes and relationships with trade unions. In some big companies, personnel depart-

ments were seen as over-bureaucratic and isolated from the main priorities of the business. During the recession in the early 1980s, centralized personnel departments, and in some instances their training budgets as well, were among the first areas to be cut. Some personnel managers soldiered on with reduced budgets and an increased work-load as the economy revived and companies resumed recruitment.

The second half of the decade has brought a dramatic change to the Cinderella image of the profession. Gaining the attention of senior management through cost savings achieved by the implementation of factory closures and redundancies in bad times has given personnel specialists the chance to spread a more positive message when conditions improved.

They have become identified with more imaginative pay schemes and profit-sharing arrangements, flexible work contracts and increasingly with training and management development.

One description of the changes envisaged over the next decade or so is that it might be the "era of the individual". This sees the main thrust of future personnel activities being tailored to individual rather than collective requirements.

Increasing use of information technology systems are seen as enabling work to be structured to individual skills and abilities with more emphasis on personal growth and motivation.

The signs are that the institute is evolving to meet future needs, such as the emphasis on training, and the repair of skills shortages.

The question of whether it can adapt quickly enough to satisfy the competitive pressures of the 1990s and beyond is one which it shares with other British management organizations, who have recently become aware that though efficiency has improved greatly in recent years, there is still a long way to go to match that of West Germany, Japan or the United States.

Changing role for those who lead



Theon Wilkinson: "We have a consistent philosophy of inherent dislike of employment legislation"

Since its inception, employee relations has been a cornerstone of the work of the institute. In the 1930s this was associated with welfare; in the 1950s with labour management.

In the last 10 years, the committee, chaired by Cory Roberts of the Motor Agents' Association, has had a heavy work load in responding to and comment on government legislation. Theon Wilkinson — IPM manager, employee relations — gives the basic committee position: "We have a consistent philosophy of inherent dislike of employment legislation, although we accept the necessity of providing a legal control on the worst type of abuses."

In response to the recent Green Paper on a further round of trade-union statutory measures, the institute said legislation would not necessarily make trade unions more democratic. The process should be better encouraged from within, possibly as a result of greater numbers of more active members and from constructive and integrative management/union policies.

Pursuing the legislative process too far could reinforce divisive and adversarial attitudes.

The pragmatism can also be seen in the practical guidance the IPM makes available to personnel managers. A recent publication, *A guide to workplace bargaining*, advised a cautious approach when it says: "It is usually not in the employer's interest to encourage ballots on short-term issues such as pay and conditions because:

- Employees normally vote in favour of strike action;
- The issue becomes a vote of confidence in the union;

gave the trade unions much of their strength. As Clive Jenkins said when a rationalization for pay and conditions was developed for university technicians, "You're taking my bread and butter away. Give me the jungle of different standards and conditions and we shall flourish."

"In employee relations there is the notion of a balance — nothing is exclusively right or wrong. This consensus approach may be out of fashion at the moment but I see in the long run the personnel manager moving towards a coordinating role in achieving a balance — a sense of fairness — both within and between organizations."

A thirst for specialist training

Personnel managers have a long history of applying their own medicine where education is concerned, having had their own external examination entry scheme since 1955.

Their arguments that the basic training they offer in human resource management offers a valuable grounding to managers in general now seem set to bear fruit in the recent climate of interest in improving management education.

Discussions are in progress to try to establish stage 1 of the institute's professional education scheme as a component of the proposed new diploma in management practice.

Meanwhile, changes due to take effect in September 1989

EDUCATION

are intended both to give more flexibility and the opportunity for personnel managers to develop specialist expertise.

Applicants, who are expected to have at least three O-levels and two A-levels will be offered a selection of six "modular" subjects in addition to a basic "core". There are also plans to offer existing members an opportunity to update their existing knowledge or gain an additional specialization by studying a particular subject at post-graduate level.

The process by which the changes were introduced is a

good illustration of how the institute works.

Before starting to redesign the present scheme which has been operating since about 1980 the first stage was to consult with the national committee which advises members about training and development topics.

The resulting consultative document was then taken earlier this year to participating colleges who were invited to give their comments. The choice of specialist subjects was drawn up as a result of this consultative process.

Prospective members who have less academic inclinations can take a certificate course which is "open entry"

and does not require any academic qualifications.

Normally involving one half day and evening per week over a year of study, the certificate course includes "core" areas such as interviewing skills and employment legislation as well as optional subjects.

Once a student has successfully completed the course, he or she is eligible to become an affiliate member or student member (CFP).

One of the IPM's strengths is its long-established links with colleges of further education.

Compensation the watchword

The National Committee on Pay and Conditions, chaired by Mike Langley of the London International Group, could be said to be a committee riding on the back of a revolution.

Ten years ago, pay was very much a technical aspect of the job of personnel. "Salary administration was the province of a clerk who saw his job as maintaining the intellectual virginity of the salary structure" was the way Steve Palmer, IPM's manager — pay and employment conditions, put it. "The emphasis was on maintaining internal and external parity, and following the going rate for the job."

In 1979, all that was changed. The entire involve-



Steve Palmer: Pay is dead

ment of the state in pay disappeared. Companies went through significant changes as they weathered the recession and the impact of new technology.

"One change was to question the conventional wisdom on wages. There was a move towards individual payments related to performance."

"It was argued that there was not much equity in paying people the same irrespective of their performance."

"This process has gathered pace during the 1980s. Starting with senior men, whose remuneration was related to achievement, there has been a dramatic shift to performance-related pay for white collar workers and a growing interest in group schemes for manual workers."

"It is against this background that pay is seen more

as a part of the total package of compensation and benefits. Its administration is intellectually more challenging as compensation is used creatively. Our aim is to make the institute a home for compensation specialists."

"Last year we established a compensation policy and management forum. We are running a series of workshops on topics such as the Finance Act, pensions, deferred work schemes. Next month we shall be running a seminar for 70 personnel directors under the title 'What compensation policies can do for your business'."

"Pay is dead — long live compensation!"

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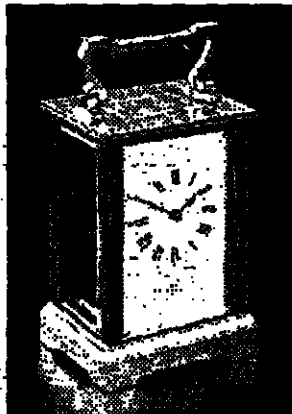
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By building and maintaining professional standards of competence, through research and projects, the IPM has won recognition as the professional personnel management association in the British Isles.

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FOCUS

INSTITUTE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Born in good will

There have been many social as well as industrial changes since the group of welfare workers who met in York at the invitation of the Rowntree confectionery company decided to form a permanent association. But the principles underlying what was then called the Welfare Workers' Association are as important today as when the first minutes were signed on June 7, 1913. These were that the association should form a centre for the exchange of information.

The actual terminology used by Miss Mary Woods, the secretary, was that the new association would "keep a register of all firms doing welfare work and should obtain particulars annually of what is being done."

Four years later in August, 1917, Miss Woods helped to organize a conference that discussed the possibility of the publication of statistics and special studies of problems of industry.

This led to the formation of the Central Association of



Mary Woods: pioneer who wrote minutes of the first meeting at York in 1913. Welfare Workers whose objectives were: "To promote the well-being of the workers in securing, in co-operation with employers and employed, the best possible conditions of work and to help all efforts, inside and outside the factory, to place industrial relations on a basis of good-will and understanding."

The first AGM was held at the London School of Economics in January 1918 400 members were listed.

There were to be six more changes of name until the present title was adopted in June 1946. Nevertheless, one of the organization's strengths has been its ability to adapt to its members' new requirements while retaining early strengths such as the branch structure and its regional bias. Above all, it has retained a co-operative and consultative approach to decision-taking which makes extensive use of members' expertise and experience.

Much of the institute's work is carried out through its committee structure. Five functional and two standing committees represent the main personnel specialisms of:

- Employee relations;
- Training and development;
- Organization and human resource planning, pay and employment conditions;
- International affairs;
- Public sector;

Equal opportunities.

Each committee has a full-time member of the IPM staff who acts as secretary, and about 20 serving IPM members. Though within the membership lists many familiar business names such as Mecca Leisure, Scottish & Newcastle, General Motors and IBM occur, an attempt is now made to maintain a balanced representation between big and small businesses, public and private sectors, consultancies and academic interests.

Most committee members will have reached a position of seniority within their parent organization and standing within the personnel management profession.

IPM views and policies are formulated by the national committees. These views are developed and propagated by work which can be broadly classified as either reactive or proactive. Reactive work centres around responses to Government initiatives and proposals for legislation within the employment field.

Way in for the skilled hands

A drive for new members launched earlier this year — one of the results of a strategic decision to "go for growth" — should do much to counter criticisms that the institute has become too inward-looking.

Peter Nicholson, who took over responsibility for membership development in January, sees the management entry scheme introduced in the early 1980s after much heart-searching about risk of declining standards, as his main immediate target. It permits senior experienced managers to become institute members without the necessity to sit examinations.

Mr Nicholson stresses that the management entry scheme is "not an easy option". To

MEMBERSHIP

qualify, applicants not only submit examples of their work, but have to undergo a grueling 1½ to two hour interview.

Even then acceptance is not automatic — an estimated 12 to 15 per cent will be refused. It is not surprising that only about 600 of the 30,000 or so IPM membership have entered by this route so far. Nevertheless Mr Nicholson is hopeful of attracting more of the estimated 55 per cent of personnel practitioners who are not institute members by this means.

Economic changes during the past decade have contributed to a new interest in professional personnel expertise in areas like, for instance, the police forces who for the first time are dealing with a civilian workforce; in local government as a result of competitive tendering, and from the nationalized industries after privatization.

Presentations to the British Airports Authority alone have led to 20 new applications and interest has also been expressed by British Rail, British Telecom and the Post Office.

Already, Mr Nicholson can identify a ripple effect stemming from the drive. Interest from a senior manager tends to spur others down the line to complete the process of becoming full members.

Another advantage of encouraging more applicants by way of management entry is that of increasing the pool of specialist knowledge available

A conscience at the front line

Communications through conferences, courses and publications are an important part of the IPM's activities. Its national conference in Harrogate has an established niche in the business calendar and attracts around 2,000 delegates and associates.

Regular contact with non members as well as members is maintained throughout the year via two publications — the Digest and the monthly Personnel Management magazine.

Through increases in the volume of vacancies advertised in the two journals reflect the rising fortunes of the profession the editorial content is an indicator of current preoccupations.

Though there is a growing emphasis on commercial requirements and more articles on general management topics there is also a continuing awareness of social issues and their implications.

The editor of Personnel Management, Susanne Lawrence, says: "Personnel managers are the front line of a business's social conscience," through their influence on recruitment and secondment decisions, age, race and sex discrimination and health and safety.

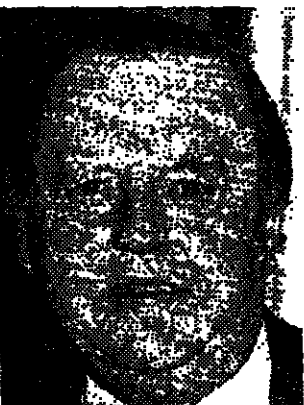
An article last month reviewed some of the measures employers can take to prevent employers' fears about AIDS.

The June issue looks at homosexuality and the implications of Section 28 of the Local Government Act on work-place attitudes.

The institute is also a leading publisher of books and reports with more than 100 titles sold either by direct mail or through bookshops.



Staff at the institute's office, IPM House, which opened in Wimbledon in 1981



John Miller, the institute director, who is due to retire next year

which is claimed to have the largest collection of specialist personnel management literature in Europe. An analysis of inquiries shows that training is a prime concern of personnel managers followed by recruitment, including requests for referral to consultants and specialist agencies.

A high demand for information about staff relocation suggests a trend in labour-market mobility. Interest was also expressed in developments in profit related pay and pensions, in performance appraisal, psychological testing and about computers in personnel.

Future developments are expected to bring more emphasis on research either carried out by the institute or co-ordinated by it. Recent projects have included a study on the use of assessment centres based on 20 organizational case studies and a survey of current policies on special leave allowances.

crease representation among smaller companies which may not have a personnel specialist is the company information service which offers some of the benefits of membership for an annual fee linked to number of employees.

A new development resulting from the recent strategy review envisages a redefinition of the role both of the full-time director of the Institute and its president. The aim is to free the director from administrative tasks and enable him or her to give overall continuity in the Institute's relationships externally. Such a shift would mean that the director would become the principal voice of the profession.

Promotional skills and the ability to communicate through TV media and press articles and interviews are therefore likely to be a new specification for a director when a successor is sought to John Miller, who retires next year.

The old are still the losers

The institute detects a clear trend towards the eradication of unfair discrimination in employment.

Its latest report shows that some 25 per cent of the vacancies advertised in the Institute's magazines were with employers who claimed to operate a policy of equal opportunities as against 20 per cent and 16 per cent respectively in the previous two years.

One advertiser even offered

EQUALITY

the job description and application forms on tape and in Braille. This trend illustrates the success of the work of the Standing Committee on Equal Opportunities, chaired by Mr Peter Naylor, of Coopers.

This committee is concerned with all aspects of equal opportunities in employment, embracing not only sex and race discrimination, but also discrimination against the disabled and on the grounds of age.

It recently commissioned independent researchers to produce an advisory booklet on contract compliance and its value in promoting equal opportunities. The research showed significant benefit and the institute made representa-

tions to the Minister of the Environment to continue to allow equal opportunities issues to be promoted via contract compliance.

Of prime concern is the extent of discrimination on grounds of age. The institute is one of the few leading professional organizations to speak out against this form of discrimination. Its code recommends an open-minded approach.

However, a survey of recent advertisements in the IPM magazines shows there is still significant bias against the older worker.

Forty was specified as the upper limit for a third of all jobs advertised, while out of a total of 3,810 jobs, only three were categorically aimed at applicants up to or about 60 years of age.

MAKE CONTACT WITH HIGHER EFFICIENCY AND IMPROVED PERFORMANCE

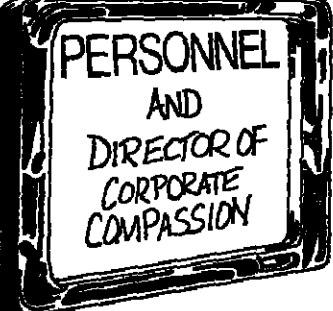
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- a professional and individual service.
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For further information on the work of The Industrial Society and a free copy of our course directory contact Carol Morgan, The Industrial Society, 3 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5DG. Tel 01-839 4300.

AND IF ONE SHOULD ACCIDENTALLY FALL....



Accident Insurance has always been bottom of the business shopping list.

When a company has forked out for fire & flood, stumped up for statutory covers and paid the pension premiums there's very little left in the corporate coffers for employees' personal security.

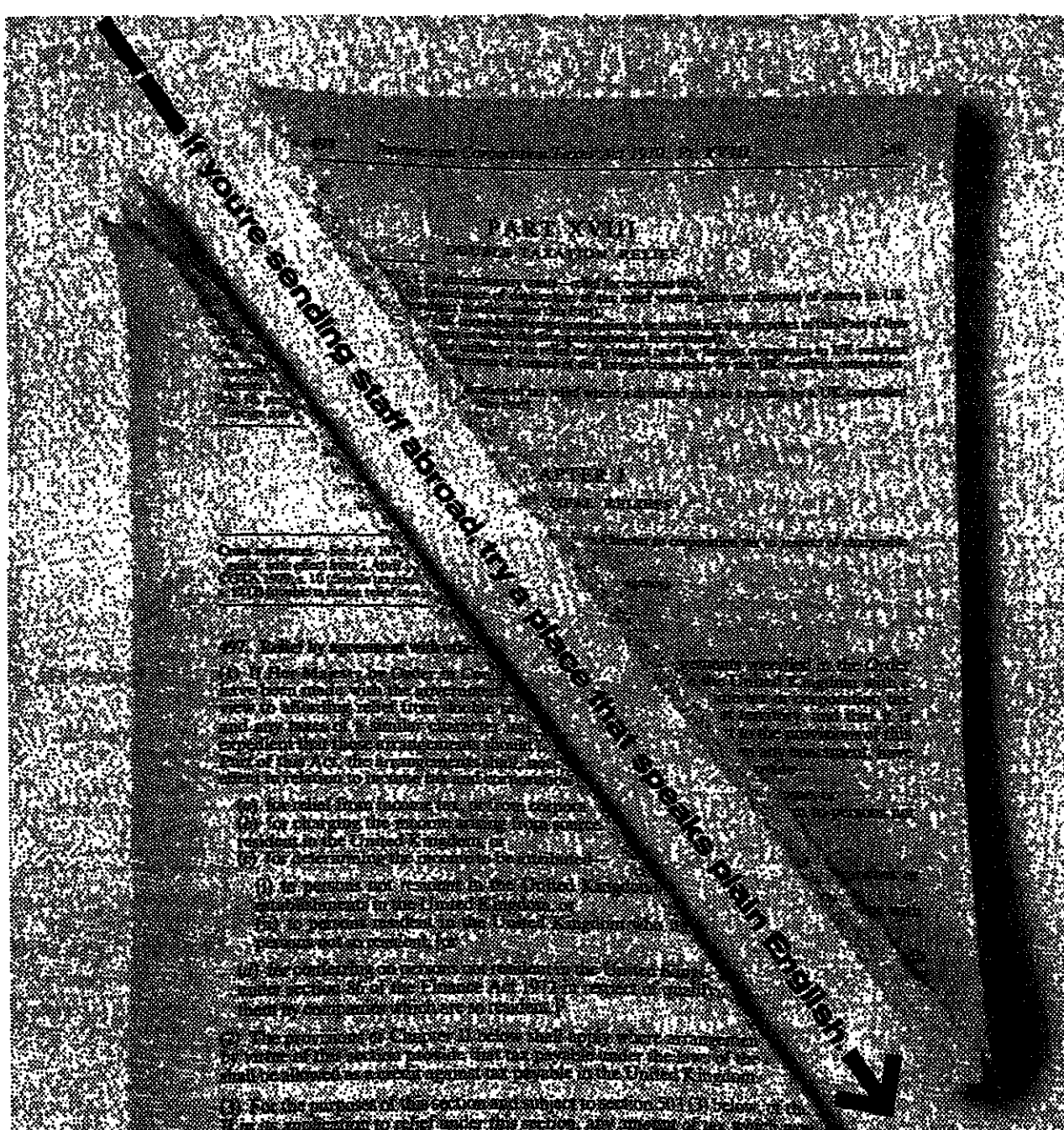
CIGNA has the solution. Easy Plan.

Employees Accident Security Insurance Plan offers high accident benefits at low costs. Premiums are simply deducted from the pay-packets of employees who want to join the scheme. So it costs the employer nothing. Talk to us and we think you'll be pleasantly surprised by a great Insurance Plan.

CIGNA Insurance Company of Europe s.a.-n.v.

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CIGNA



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NatWest The Action Bank

PRESS FOR ACTION

INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE
LONDON

★ **LE CIRQUE IMAGINAIRE:** Return of Victoria Chaplin and Jean-Baptiste Taurie in a show most loved by fans.
Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock EC4 (01-236 5568). Tue: Blackfridays. Opens tonight, 7.30pm, then Mon-Sat 7.30-9.45pm, £25-£12.50.

★ **DRIVING MISS DAISY:** Wendy Hiller, Barry Foster, Charles Palmer in this year's Pulitzer prize-winning relationship between an elderly Jewess and her black chauffeur.
Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 2653). Tue: Piccadilly Circus. Preview tonight 8-9.30pm. Opens tomorrow, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm; mats Sat 5-6.30pm. Tonight 24-25, then 25-24.

★ **EL SID:** The Great Train Robber who got away to Spain but finds his past catching up with him: musical thriller.
Half Moon Theatre, 100 Mile End Road, E1 (01-750 4000). Tue: Stephen Green. Opens tonight 8-9.45pm. Then Mon-Sat 8-9.45pm, £25-£6.50.

★ **STRUGGLE OF THE BLACK MAN AND THE DOGS:** A mysterious death in West Africa reveals the nasty facts of neo-colonialism, with a young French playwright B-M Kolbe.
Gate Theatre, Prince Alfred Public House, Pentridge Road, W11 (01-229 0766). Tue: Notting Hill Gate. Preview tonight 7.45pm, opens tomorrow 7.45pm, then Mon-Sat 7.45pm, £4-50.

★ **ZIEGFELD:** Spectacular musical based on the life of the man who made the famous flippers, and costing a bomb.
London Palladium, 8 Argyll Street, W1 (01-437 7373). Tue: Oxford Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30-11.30pm, £12-25. Tue-Sat 2.45-5.30pm, £25-£21.

WORD-WATCHING
Answers from page 24
DEAD MAN'S HAND
(b) A hand of cards consisting of a pair of aces and a pair of eights, so called because Wild Bill Hickok was holding such a hand, and accordingly could not draw his gun, when he was murdered.

NIGHT HAWK
(b) The name given to the rangeland which is in charge of the rangeland. It is the herd of saddle horses, during the hours of darkness, is the orderly officer for the night.

SUCCOOTASH
(a) An American dish that originally consisted of a mess of boiled corn, beans, and fish; as time became harder, the fish was left out, and succotash became a (disgusting) vegetable stew.

CANNARY
(c) Martha Jane Canary, or Canary, born 1 May 1852, married Wild Bill Hickok in a stylish wedding, served as a man in the US Army driving motor, alias Calamity Jane.

LONG RUNNERS: ★ Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Queen's Theatre (01-734 1166). ★ The Business of Murder: Mayfair Theatre (01-629 3036). ★ Cate: New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-402 4079). ★ Follies: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5389). ★ 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 5108/9). ★ Kiss Me Kate: Savoy Theatre (01-836 8888). ★ Les Liaisons Dangereuses: Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 6111). ★ Life and Myself: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). ★ Les Misérables: Palace Theatre (01-434 0906). ★ The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). ★ Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-836 2244). ★ Run For Your Wife: Criterion Theatre (01-830 3216). ★ Shakespeare Express: Apollo Theatre (01-292 8663). ★ And Then There Were None: Duke of York's Theatre (01-836 5122).

OUT OF TOWN

COVENTRY: ★ The Elephant Man: Bernard Pomeroy's touching play, with cast coached in circus skills. Belgrade Theatre, Belgrade Square (0203 555555). Mon-Thurs 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, £25-£2.50.

FILMS

★ **Also on national release**
★ **Advance booking possible**
BROADCAST NEWS (15): Stick drama about network TV journalism from James L Brooks (James L Brooks). Endersmire; with William Hurt, Albert Brooks, Holly Hunter as the trio caught in a jumble of professional and romantic problems (135 min). Cannon Royal (01-830 8915). Progs 1.55, 4.50, 7.45. Odeon Kensington (01-602 6644). Progs 5.00, 8.10.

★ **THE LAST EMPEROR** (15): Bertolucci's gorgeously photographed epic tells the extraordinary story of Peking's last imperial ruler, who lived to become a model Communist citizen. With John Lone, Peter O'Toole (162 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5066). Progs 2.30, 7.40. Odeon Kensington (01-602 6644). Progs 1.20, 4.55, 7.55.

TELEVISION TOP 10

National top 10 programmes in the week ending May 29:
BBC 1
1 EastEnders (Thurs/Sun) 16.00
2 EastEnders (Tues/Sun) 16.00
3 Neighbours (Mon 12.30/12.45, 14.00)
4 Neighbours (Wed 12.30/12.45, 14.00)
5 Neighbours (Thurs 12.30/12.45, 14.00)
6 Neighbours (Fri 12.30/12.45, 14.00)
7 Neighbours (Sat 12.30/12.45, 14.00)
8 Neighbours (Sun 12.30/12.45, 14.00)
9 Neighbours (Mon 12.30/12.45, 14.00)
10 Neighbours (Tue 12.30/12.45, 14.00)
BBC 2
1 The West Wing (Wed 9.00)
2 The West Wing (Thurs 9.00)
3 The West Wing (Fri 9.00)
4 The West Wing (Sat 9.00)
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BBC 3
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BBC 9
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Girls in Paris fashion

A move to Paris, with its overwhelming weight of tradition in figure painting, must pose a threat to one whose practice involves daily drawing from a life model. Adrian George, English painter, pastellist, and illustrator, accepted the challenge early last year and removed to the Left Bank. The resulting studies of pretty girls posing in George's studio, 50 of which are currently on exhibition, demonstrate that he has reflected deeply upon French 19th and 20th century art and that by absorbing its lessons has managed to see off the threat and preserve his individuality intact. The experience has also equipped him with a startling facility for parody. For example, in "The Column" (right) there are distinct echoes of drawing styles from Ingres to Matisse. Though he clearly relishes the taxing confrontation between artist and model, George works in a range of genres. Last year, the National Portrait Gallery purchased his painting of William Golding, Adrian George's recent studio pictures are on show from today at the Francis Kyle Gallery, 9 Maddox Street, London W1 (01-499 6870). Monday to Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 11am-5pm, free, until June 30. David Lee.



CONCERTS

★ **CASHMERE CONDUCTS:** The London Music Players are conducted by Donald Cashmere in Mozart's Symphony No 38 "Prague", then the City of London Choir, London Concert Choir, and soloists are added for Beethoven's Missa Solemnis. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 9800). 7.30-8.45pm, £25-£10.

★ **GRAVITY GATES:** Alan Gravill plays Phrygian Gates by the American composer John Adams, Brahms's Piano Sonata Op 5 and Debussy's Images II. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). 7.30pm, £25-£5.

★ **ABOUT MONARCHS:** The Songmakers' Almanac offer a programme about monarchs historical and fictional who have ruled the various domains of song. The music is by Beethoven and Schumann, Loewe and Wolf, Prince Albert and Lord Britten. Wigmore Hall, 26 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 4141). 7.30pm, £25-£5.

★ **FROM YALE:** On tour in the UK, the Yale Symphony Orchestra gives the European premiere of the Season by the American composer Robert Kyr. Also to be heard are Richard Strauss's Metamorphosen and Symphonie Poem Don Juan. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-935 4141). 7.30pm, £25-£5.

★ **THE BOOGIE BROTHERS:** Eight-piece band reminiscent of the Blues Brothers - tributes and sun glasses complete the show. Also Dave Kelly and The Rivals. Hail Moon, Putney, London SW15 (01-788 2387). 8pm, £5.

★ **THE KINKS:** Sentimental Sides' camp, preceded by Praludes. Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham Street, London, WC2 (01-240 8230). £20-£12.50.

★ **THE ENTENHURUNG AUS DEM SERAIL:** David Rendall is the Belmont in Glyndebourne's strongly cast revival of Mozart's Turkish opera. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111). 5.40-9.40pm, returns only.

★ **THE EMPEROR OF ATLANTIS:** Dr John Buchanan Opera presents a work written by Viktor Ullmann while a prisoner in the Terezin concentration camp, preceded by Praludes. Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham Street, London, WC2 (01-240 8230). £20-£12.50.

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★ **HOUSHOUS FLOWERS:** Dublin band of considerable potential whose debut album People is released this week. Leicester University, University Road (0533 556282) 8pm, £4.

★ **FIREHOSE:** Explosive American hard-core band from the SST school. Riverside, 57-59 Marlborough Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (01 261 4388). 7.30pm, £3.

★ **WALKS**
INNS OF COURT - LONDON'S LEGAL HERITAGE: meet Chancery Lane tube, 11am, £2.50 (also next Tues).

★ **IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES:** meet Baker Street tube, 11.30am, £2 (also next Tues).

★ **GALLERIES**
WIMBLEDON SCULPTURE: Tenth annual outdoor exhibition of work by sculpture staff and students at Wimbledon School of Art, Cammizaro Park, Wimbledon, London SW15 (01-540 0231), free, until June 30.

★ **WITH COLOUR INTO SPACE:** Recent Dutch abstract painting and sculpture. Amstelmarrow Quay, Bristol (0272-289191), Tues-Sat 10-7.30pm, Sun 10-7pm, free, until July 17.

★ **THIS GORGEOUS MOUCHOIR:** A show of colourful handkerchiefs commemorating royal and public events. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2 (01-600 3699), Tues-Sat 10-6pm, Sun 2-6pm, free, until September 4.

★ **THREE WOMEN ARTISTS:** Painter Jenny Ryrie and printmakers Fiona Hamley and Angela Newberry. Lamont Gallery, 65 Roman Road, London E2 (01-481 6332), Tues-Sat 11-6pm, free, until July 2.

★ **JAZZ**
★ **HORNWAVE:** Far more intense than their rivals Hot Fingers, the Sheffield saxophone quartet favour austere, cyclical compositions. Bath Festival, Camden Works Museum, Julian Road (info 0225 63362/66441) 7.30pm, £3.

★ **IRAKERE/BUD SHANK:** The best of the Cuban band on the same bill as the West Coast saxophone quartet. Bath Festival, Camden Works Museum, Julian Road (info 0225 63362/66441) 7.30pm, £3.

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★ **THE ENTENHURUNG AUS DEM SERAIL:** David Rendall is the Belmont in Glyndebourne's strongly cast revival of Mozart's Turkish opera. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111). 5.40-9.40pm, returns only.

★ **THE BOOGIE BROTHERS:** Eight-piece band reminiscent of the Blues Brothers - tributes and sun glasses complete the show. Also Dave Kelly and The Rivals. Hail Moon, Putney, London SW15 (01-788 2387). 8pm, £5.

DANCE

★ **RHAPSODY IN BLUE:** Preview of Richard Alston's ballet, plus Gerstwin songs by Elisabeth Welch, at a fund raising gala to open Rambert Dance Company's London season. Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (01-278 8916), 8-10pm, £35-£150.

★ **ROMEO & JULIET:** Scottish Ballet in John Cranko's production. Theatre Royal, Hoxton, Glasgow (041-331 1234), 7.15-10.15pm.

★ **GISELLE:** Peter Wright's production for Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet. The Big Top, Jesus Green, Cambridge (0223 463377), 7.30-9.45pm, mat 2-4.15pm, £25-£10.

★ **OTHER EVENTS**
THE FINE ART AND ANTIQUES FAIR: 300 top antique dealers from the UK and overseas plus a commemorative display marking the bicentenary of the publication of the first edition of the Dictionary of the History of Ideas.

★ **GROSVENOR ANTIQUES FAIR:** See caption. Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London W1 (0799 26899). Charity preview tomorrow 7-9.30pm. Opens Thurs from 10am, (opening ceremony 3pm), then Mon-Sat 11-6pm, £25.

★ **WITH COLOUR INTO SPACE:** Recent Dutch abstract painting and sculpture. Amstelmarrow Quay, Bristol (0272-289191), Tues-Sat 10-7.30pm, Sun 10-7pm, free, until July 17.

★ **THIS GORGEOUS MOUCHOIR:** A show of colourful handkerchiefs commemorating royal and public events. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2 (01-600 3699), Tues-Sat 10-6pm, Sun 2-6pm, free, until September 4.

★ **THREE WOMEN ARTISTS:** Painter Jenny Ryrie and printmakers Fiona Hamley and Angela Newberry. Lam

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Jane Rackham and Penny Osborn

BBC1

- 6.55 **Ceefax AM**.
6.55 **News** (b/w). 6.55 **Weather**.
7.00 **Breakfast Time**. With John Stapleton and Kirsty Wark. Includes regional and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15 and weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25. Regional news and weather, followed by **Dallas** (Ceefax) (r).
8.30 **Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga**. Stretch and exercise (r).
8.40 **News** and weather, followed by **Minister of the Interior**. Beneath the surface of a duck pond. (Ceefax) (r). 10.15 **Cartoon**.
8.50 **Children's BBC**. Andy Crane with birthday greetings and programme news, followed by **Play School**. Presented by Floella Benjamin with guest Johnny Ball (r).
9.30 **First Test**. Tony Lewis introduces live coverage of this morning's play between England and the West Indies in the first day at Trent Bridge. Includes 10.55 and 12.00 News and weather. 12.45 **Regional news** and weather.
1.00 **One O'Clock News**. With Michael Buerk. Weather. 1.30 **Neighbours**. Romance is in the air when Sharon and Charlene try their hand at matchmaking.
1.50 **Cricket: First Test**. Further live coverage from Trent Bridge.
2.40 **The High Chaparral**. Western series.
3.30 **The Pink Panther Show**. 3.55 **Sebastian the Incredible Drawing Dog** (r). 4.00 **Doodle**. 4.15 **Simon and the Witch** (r). 4.30 **Pole Position** (r).
5.00 **Newsround**.
5.10 **The Lowdown**. Emily Holt's campaign to get the education of fair choice (Ceefax).
5.55 **Midweek**.
6.00 **Six O'Clock News** with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather.

BBC2

- 6.55 **Open University: Chemistry**. Ends at 7.20.
9.00 **Ceefax**.
9.20 **Daytime on Two**. Home economics. 9.50 **Ceefax**. 10.15 **Box Extension**. 10.30 **Conservation**. 11.18 **Ceefax**. 11.35 **Reproduction and Survival**. 12.00 **The Problem of Bysses**. 12.05 **Ceefax**. 12.30 **A-Level History**. 12.50 **Spanish for beginners**.
1.30 **Postman Pat**. Narrated by Ken Barrie. 1.35 **Big Top Science**. Why does the wind blow? How can you measure its speed? And how can you make a model of a tornado? Presented by Terry Marsh and Kieran Poskitt.
2.00 **News** and weather, followed by **You and Me**. A series for four and five-year-olds presented by Shanti Patel (r).
2.15 **Sign Extra**. Includes an item on the writers of *Cagney and Lacey*, adapted for the hearing impaired (r).
2.40 **Cricket: First Test**. Tony Lewis introduces live coverage of the final day's play between England and the West Indies at Trent Bridge. With commentators Richie Benaud and Jack Bennett. Includes 3.00 News and weather, followed by regional news and weather.
6.10 **Film: The Vikings** (1958). Action and adventure in this epic set in the barbaric world of ninth-century Vikings. Starring Kirk Douglas and Tony Curtis as half-brothers competing for the love of the Princess Morgana (Janet Leigh) and the throne of Northumbria. With Ernest Borgnine and Dandy Nichols. Directed by Richard Fleischer.
8.00 **Connors**. Bamber Connors chairs the fifth heat of the quiz game on fine and decorative arts. (Ceefax).
8.30 **Brass Tacks**. The story of a 31-year-old man who has secured an out of court settlement after 11 years of battling to prove his growth was stunted by a drug prescribed for childhood arthritis but has failed in his attempt to get the drug companies to admit liability. Helen Beaton reports on this country's compensation system.



Jennifer Saunders as Edith Fiddle (BBC 2, 9pm)

- 9.00 **Happy Families**. First episode in a repeat run of the comedy series written by Ben Elton. Starring Jennifer Saunders, who plays the part of a doddery grandmother as well as her four grand-daughters, and Adrian Edmondson as her bumbling grandson, who has to round up the family before she dies. With Dawn French, Helen Lederer and Stephen Fry; and Una Stubbs as the Mother Superior. (Ceefax) (r).
9.30 **The Duty Men**. (Ceefax). (see Choice).
10.20 **It's Garry Shandling's Show**. The off-beat American comedian is sharing his condominium with a stray dog; but when his wedding manager finds out, it is time for Laffie to go home.
10.40 **Newsnight**. With Peter Snow and Donald MacKinnon. 11.25 **Weather**.
11.30 **Cricket: First Test**. Richie Benaud introduces highlights of today's play between England and the West Indies.
12.00 **Open University: Bedford College of Higher Education** - a pioneering college. Ends 12.30am.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am** begins with the Morning Programme presented by Richard Keys. 7.00 **Good Morning Britain**. 8.00 **After Nine**. Jayne Irving talks to fashion designer John Galiano.
9.25 **Thames News**.
9.30 **Cross Wit**. Word quiz. (r).
10.00 **Santa Barbara**. 10.25 **News Headlines**.
10.30 **The Time ... The Place**. Mike Scott chairs a discussion on a topical subject. 11.10 **Rainbow**. 11.25 **Thames News Headlines**.
11.30 **About Britain**. Tony Gregory tells the story of East Angles' local port, Wells, and Mac Dowdy visits ports such as Grimsby and Ayr in the Low Countries.
12.00 **Gas Street**. First in a new series with Vince Hill, Jilly Cooper and Rustie Lee.
12.30 **The Sullivan**. Family drama series set in a London suburb.
1.00 **News at One** with Julia Somerville.
1.20 **Thames News**.
1.30 **Quincy**. The investigative pathologist finds evidence of child abuse when he examines a boy after a road accident (r).
2.30 **The Treatment**. Examines why fever; the necessity for a measles vaccination; and the return of leeches.
3.00 **Farmhouse Kitchen**. Grace Muligan's guest is David Shepperson, manager of a fish shop in Huddersfield.
3.25 **Thames News Headlines**.
3.30 **The Young Doctors**. Australian hospital drama series.
4.00 **Children's ITV** starting with **Rainbow**. A repeat of the programme shown earlier.
4.15 **The Teletubbies**. (r). 4.25 **Who's Next**. Children's programme on progress for young people. 4.35 **Inspector Gadget**. Cartoon series.
5.00 **Bellamy's Bugle**. David Bellamy discovers the secrets of old Whitley.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1** **WALLS**. 5.25pm-5.00 **News**. 5.00-5.25 **Weather**. 5.25-7.00 **News**. 7.00-7.25 **Weather**. 7.25-7.50 **News**. 7.50-8.25 **Weather**. 8.25-8.50 **News**. 8.50-9.25 **Weather**. 9.25-9.50 **News**. 9.50-10.25 **Weather**. 10.25-10.50 **News**. 10.50-11.25 **Weather**. 11.25-11.50 **News**. 11.50-12.25 **Weather**. 12.25-12.50 **News**. 12.50-1.00 **Weather**. 1.00-1.30 **News**. 1.30-1.55 **Weather**. 1.55-2.00 **News**. 2.00-2.25 **Weather**. 2.25-2.50 **News**. 2.50-3.00 **Weather**. 3.00-3.25 **News**. 3.25-3.50 **Weather**. 3.50-4.00 **News**. 4.00-4.25 **Weather**. 4.25-4.50 **News**. 4.50-5.00 **Weather**. 5.00-5.25 **News**. 5.25-5.50 **Weather**. 5.50-6.00 **News**. 6.00-6.25 **Weather**. 6.25-6.50 **News**. 6.50-7.00 **Weather**. 7.00-7.25 **News**. 7.25-7.50 **Weather**. 7.50-8.00 **News**. 8.00-8.25 **Weather**. 8.25-8.50 **News**. 8.50-9.00 **Weather**. 9.00-9.25 **News**. 9.25-9.50 **Weather**. 9.50-10.00 **News**. 10.00-10.25 **Weather**. 10.25-10.50 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FT 30 Share
1452.8 (+8.4)
FT-SE 100
1882.7 (+13.5)
USM (Datastream)
157.00 (+0.27)

US dollar
1.8030 (+0.0030)
W German mark
3.0948 (-0.0111)
Trade-weighted
76.3 (+0.1)

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

GUS takes 25% stake in Penguin

Great Universal Stores, Britain's biggest mail order group, has emerged as a 25 per cent stakeholder in Penguin Hotel Group, the new company established by Mr Michael Golder, the former chairman and chief executive of Kennedy Brooks.

GUS has invested £4.5 million in Penguin, which has paid £30 million for seven hotels previously owned by Ladbrooke Group.

Sketchley rise

Sketchley, the dry cleaning, vending, office services and estate rental group, made £13.4 million pretax profits in the year to April 1, compared with £10.7 million previously. *Tempos, page 26*

M&G warns

M&G Group, the financial services specialist and Britain's largest unit trust company, has posted pretax profits in the six months end-March 31 of £10.7 million, compared with £8.8 million previously. *Tempos, page 26*

Quality buy

Oilfield Inspection Services, Mr Paul Bristol's new quoted vehicle, is paying £900,000 in cash for Quality Inspection Services from Foster Wheeler.

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2089.21 (-12.09)
Tokyo	Nikkei Average	27986.24 (+89.78)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	2590.39 (+22.04)
Amsterdam	Gen	251.6 (+2.4)
Sydney	AO	1598.6 (+19.5)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank	1412.9 (+5.1)
Brussels	General	4791.9 (+51.4)
Paris	CAC	3280.3 (+3.1)
Zurich	SKA Gen	455.6 (+3.1)
London	FT-30 Share	1452.8 (+8.4)
FT-100		1882.7 (+13.5)
FT-1000		254.3 (+2.2)
FT-10000		98.49 (+0.17)
FT-100000		88.82 (+0.18)
Recent issues		Page 28
Closing prices		Page 31

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISE:	
Tate & Lyle	79 1/2 (+30p)
Harris Queensway	157 1/2 (+12p)
Cadbury	408 1/2 (+13p)
Glaxo	93 1/2 (+15p)
British Aerospace	445 1/2 (+13p)
Advest	362 1/2 (+30 1/2p)
RHM	370p (+10p)
Bass	80 1/2 (+15p)
Grand Met	50 1/2 (+11p)
Ladbrokes	435p (+10p)
Vibropoint	72 1/2 (+20p)
N Brown	27 1/2 (+15p)
Reckitt	50 1/2 (+11p)
Hanover Drugs	200p (+18p)
Dalgety	31 1/2 (+10p)
S Miller	119 1/2 (+20p)
Bank of Scotland	367 1/2 (+12 1/2p)

FALLS:	
Henderson Admin	67 1/2 (-30p)
Independent	41 1/2 (-25p)
Schroders	88 1/2 (-25p)
Closing prices	Page 31
Bargains	259p

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	8 1/2%
3-month interbank	8 1/2% - 8 3/4%
3-month eligible bills	8 1/2% - 8 3/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	9%
Federal Funds 7 1/2%	
3-month Treasury Bills	6.48-6.47%
30-year bonds	100 1/2 - 100 3/4

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£1.8030	£1.8020
DM1.0948	DM1.7172
SwF2.5810	SwF1.4222
FF10.3622	FF10.3655
Yen227.27	Yen126.07
Indec76.3	Indec94.0
ECU20.669270	SDR10.755407

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$464.10 pm \$464.55	
new \$463.00-463.50 (2257.00-2257.50)	
New York:	
Comex \$463.50-464.00	

NORTH SEA OIL

Break (July) pm \$16.50/bbl (\$16.65)	
* Denotes latest trading price	

THE TIMES

STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● For up-to-the-second prices on over 10,000 shares, unit trusts and bonds, funds and other investments, ring Stockwatch on 0898 141 141.
● Recent additions include: Anglessey Mining Warrants 03090; Guinness Mahon Holdings 03093; Kelt Energy 6% Conv Pref 03095; Scottish Ice Rink 03096; Arthur Shaw 03092; Isopad International 03087; Domestic and general group 03075. ● Details, page 26

Base rate rise fails to stem sterling slide

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England yesterday signalled the second increase in base rates in the space of three trading days, leading the high street banks to lift rates from 8 to 8.5 per cent.

Dealers said that while the Bank was unlikely to push rates higher again this week, barring sharp sterling weakness, rates were likely to rise again to at least 9 per cent, probably before the end of the month.

The increase failed to reverse sterling's slide against the mark. It closed 1.1 pence down at DM3.0948, but above the level of just over DM3.08 reached in Far East trading overnight.

The pound gained against the weaker dollar, which was hit by weekend comments by Herr Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president.

It gained a third of a penny to \$1.8030 and the sterling index edged up 0.1 points to 76.3.

The Bank of England raised its dealing rates at shortly after noon when there was no significant downward pressure on sterling, and money market traders had begun to conclude that there would be no action until later in the week.

Apart from the fact that the Bank prefers to retain an element of unpredictability in

changing rates, the quick move was also initiated so that the Bank could be seen to be leading any changes in rates rather than merely responding to currency market pressures.

Treasury officials said it was considered appropriate to tighten monetary conditions

Leading article 15
Comment 27

and that yesterday's move should be seen in this context. They repeated that there was no mechanistic relationship between sterling and the level of base rates.

"It looks perfectly symmetrical to me," said Mr Bill Martin, an economist at Phillips & Drew. "But they will throw in everything that is necessary to hold it above DM3."

Money market interest rates closed well above the new 8.5 per cent base rate level, with the three-month interbank rate closing at 8 1/2%-8 3/4% per cent.

A further rise in base rates would trigger a general increase in mortgage rates and this, given official concern about the house price boom, may be an important element in the Bank's relatively aggressive base rate moves over the past few days.

The Halifax Building Society said: "We do not intend to increase our mortgage rates

against a base rate of 8.5 per cent, but the Halifax will have to look again at its mortgage rates if base rates go any higher."

Analysts believe sterling will have to fall further against the mark before the Bank acts to raise rates again. They said any move is unlikely before the publication of the US trade figures in a week's time.

"This was a slightly aggressive move, even though it was well anticipated," said Mr John Sheppard, an economist at Warburg Securities. "The Bank has to try and keep the initiative."

"I think sterling is probably around where they want it to be," said Mrs Evelyn Brodie, an economist at Morgan Grenfell.

"The market is still looking for the next move to be up, although not immediately," she added.

"This is a cat and mouse game between the authorities and the markets," said Mr Gavin Davies, chief UK economist at Goldman Sachs.

"An exchange rate of DM3.10 and 8 1/2 per cent base rates probably reflect a desired combination, and they have a reasonable chance of keeping it there," he said.

The CBI said a rise in interest rates was not welcome at any time, and that businessmen wanted stable exchange rates.

Retail sales boom continues

By Our Economics Correspondent

The strong rise in retail sales has continued, official figures have shown, overturning earlier evidence of a slowdown in high street spending.

Final retail sales figures for April showed a 0.7 per cent increase in sales volume compared with March. In the latest three months, sales were up by 1.3 per cent, and were almost

6.5 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The final figures showed an upward revision to 136.4 (1980 = 100) in the index of sales volume for April, comfortably a record, from the 135.8 figure first estimated.

Separate data from the Department of Trade and Industry appeared to show

some slowdown in the growth of consumer credit, with the amount of credit outstanding up only £276 million in April, compared with £426 million in March.

But officials said that this was due to the effect of the Easter holiday on credit applications, and did not point to any slowdown in credit growth.

Parkinson doubts on oil policy

By Colin Narborough

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday cast doubt on the Government's stance on oil pricing and production, leading to fears in Whitehall that he had made an about-turn on Britain's long-standing policy of letting market forces decide prices and output.

A news agency report from Jakarta, Indonesia, said Mr Parkinson had publicly endorsed the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' oil price target of \$18 per barrel.

Mr Parkinson was discussing the prospects for this week's meeting of Opec. Mr Parkinson said a key to success in Vienna would be whether Opec could respond positively to an offer by six non-Opec countries to limit crude oil exports.

He thought the aim would be to try to stabilize the price around the \$18 mark. "That is what they will be trying to achieve, and we support it as an objective," he was quoted as saying.

According to Whitehall, Mr Parkinson said nothing of the kind, and that Britain's policy was unchanged.

Nestlé set to raise Rowntree offer

By Cliff Feltham

Nestlé was last night tipped to be on the verge of returning with a knock-out takeover bid for Rowntree, the York confectionery group. But the Swiss group's merchant bank advisers would not comment on reports that it was preparing to raise its £2.1 billion bid.

Meanwhile, advisers involved in the battle also imposed a strict "no comment" on speculation that talks between Rowntree and its rival suitors had been taking place.

Rowntree, confronting two groups which own a combined 46 per cent of its shares, appears certain to consider recommending one of the bidders in return for undertakings about the future of jobs and the role of the existing management in a new set-up.

Mr Kenneth Dixon, the Rowntree chairman, will hold back any recommendation until he knows whether Nestlé, which holds 16 per cent, will raise its 900.5p offer.

This has been trumped by Jacobs Suchard's counter-offer of 950p. Suchard, which controls 29.9 per cent, will probably publish its offer document on Thursday, setting out why the York company would gain more from

linking up with it rather than Nestlé.

Nestlé will today announce acceptance after the first closing date for its offer, although these are expected to be negligible.

Suchard has been busy elsewhere on the takeover front. It is taking a majority stake in Pavlides, the second-largest confectionery company in Greece, with a turnover of £20 million. The deal is understood to be worth about £5 million.

The Swiss government is considering reforms to its tough corporate laws to make it easier for hostile foreign takeover bids of its companies (Richard Ford writes).

Swiss officials are being forced to look at their restrictive regulations after the controversy in Britain over the bids for Rowntree.

Any changes in Switzerland's corporate shareholding structures would need legislation but Swiss officials have now given the government indications that reform is essential if Swiss financiers are not to suffer with the introduction in 1992 of the single European market.

Call for EEC policy, page 29

Gibraltar-based fund expected to be closed

Clowes silent over £130m

By Lawrence Lever

Steps are expected to be taken this week to close down Barlow Clowes International, the Gibraltar-based fund management group in which £130 million of private investors' money has been placed.

This emerged yesterday from a three-hour meeting in London of 70 financial intermediaries who had placed investors' money with BCI or its British sister company Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers.

The meeting was called by two partners in Cork Gully, the accountant, who have been appointed special managers of BCGM at the instigation of the Securities and Investments Board, the new City watchdog.

At the meeting it was unanimously resolved that steps be taken immediately to protect investors with BCI, which effectively means that a liquidator or receiver will be appointed.

There were unconfirmed reports last night that a group of investors had taken separate legal action and had already issued a winding-up petition in Gibraltar.

Concern has become focussed on the Gibraltar operation following disclosures in the *Times* that the £130 million is not managed or held in Gibraltar and that some of it has been invested in private property companies to the surprise of many investors and intermediaries who thought the money was held in gilts or cash.

The concern over BCI was compounded at yesterday's meeting when Mr Peter Clowes, the head of Barlow Clowes, declined to specify exactly where the £130 million was. At one point he confused the meeting by using the analogy of "a Christmas pudding company."

Moreover, a document obtained by the *Times* shows that BCI in Gibraltar has been operating as an agent for Mr Clowes personally and a Jersey-based company called Conwin Services Limited. It



The Christmas pudding chef: Peter Clowes yesterday (Photograph: John Manning)

strongly implies that all investment decisions relating to two Barlow Clowes funds were to be made by Mr Clowes and Conwin.

The document — a legal agreement — states that the relationship between Mr Clowes and Conwin on the one hand and BCI on the other, is "that of principal and agent."

The agreement says that Mr Clowes and Conwin operate "various pooled funds known as Portfolio 28 and 68" (the names of Barlow Clowes' funds). It appoints BCI to manage, market, provide administration and registration for Mr Clowes and Conwin in return for a one-off fee of £75,000 and a monthly fee of 0.1 per cent of the two Barlow funds.

However, it states that BCI agrees "to accept the advice and recommendations" of Mr Clowes and Conwin. The document does not state that the two Barlow funds are to be transferred to BCI.

In fact about one third of

the £130 million Gibraltar fund has been invested in gilts and the balance in fixed interest securities. Half of this balance is not readily realizable.

The intermediaries agreed yesterday that £50 million of gilts held in London should be turned into cash as soon as possible. And a leading financial institution has offered its assistance to Cork Gully, which may lead to some form of interim payment being made to investors in BCGM.

Tate & Lyle sells Staley division for \$700m

By John Bell

Tate & Lyle, the sugar producer, has moved swiftly to reduce the hefty debt burden arising from its \$1.5 billion (£831 million) purchase of Staley International, the US corn syrup and food group.

Just three weeks after winning control of Staley, T&L

has recouped almost half the outlay through the sale of CFS Continental, Staley's food distribution and manufacturing operation, for \$700 million in cash. The buyer is Sysco Corporation, a leading US food distributor.

From the earliest stages of the bid for Staley, Mr Neil Shaw, the T&L chairman,

made no secret of his intention to dispose of CFS. But the eventual sale price is well above the original estimate of \$500 million.

T&L's strategists expect substantial savings from the transfer of Staley's headquarters from Chicago to Decatur, Illinois. Food industry analysts expect further re-

structuring, aimed at shifting the balance of group profits closer to an even split between the US and Europe. The balance has been upset by the Staley purchase which led to around 68 per cent of group income arising in the US.

In the City, T&L shares closed at 79 1/2p, up 20p. *Comment, page 27*

GrandMet in £21m purchase

By Michael Tate

Grand Metropolitan is buying the privately-owned frozen gâteaux and speciality desserts group, Kaysens, for £21.5 million.

Kaysens, which manufactures in North London and is a leading supplier to the catering trade, will form part of GrandMet's Express Foods Group (International), which moved into the frozen desserts market last October with the acquisition of Fleur de Lys.

Mr Mike Hodgkinson, Express managing director, believes Kaysens provides an excellent opportunity to further strengthen and develop its position in the frozen desserts market.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Sheraton Securities lifts profit by 142%

A hectic development programme boosted pretax profits of Sheraton Securities International, the property trader, by 142 per cent to £11.2 million last year. Earnings per share rose by 94 per cent to 6.8p and the company is doubling the dividend payout to 2.25p a share. Mr Peter Taylor, the managing director, completed developments in the City of London, Milton Keynes, Cambridge and Reading, and in other towns throughout the South-east. The strong demand for office and industrial premises has continued into the current year.

Over the next two to three years Sheraton is expected to complete £350 million worth of developments. "We anticipate that surpluses towards £60 million will flow from these projects and this should ensure continuing growth in profits," he says. On the stock market the shares rose 3p to 85p.

Turriff buys Essexcare

Turriff, the construction group, is buying Essexcare, a West Midlands specialist trench digging equipment supplier. An initial payment of £500,000 is being made, with further amounts due in 1990 and 1991 depending on profits. Of this £100,000 will be paid in cash and the rest in Turriff shares. Essexcare made a £60,000 pretax profit in 1987.

Aspen pays £2m for Mass

Aspen Communications, Mr Henry Maslin's USM-quoted printing, advertising and video business, is paying up to £2.1 million for Mass (Merchandising & Sales Services), a privately-owned marketing operation. The payment comprises £1.5 million now with up to £600,000 to follow, depending on sales, and will be financed by a share placing.

Staff cuts at Sound

Sound Diffusion, the equipment leasing group, is making a further 70 employees redundant as part of its new management's cost-cutting and re-organization policy. This will mean that staffing has been reduced from 735 to 590 since December when Mr Paul Storer, the former chairman, resigned. In April, Sound announced full-year losses for 1987 of £5.6 million and launched a £10 million rights issue. However, it says levels of business are strong.

Sound Diffusion is also appointing three new executive directors to the board. It has streamlined the operating structure and altered middle-management incentives - linking them to completed business rather than sales. Mr David Macdonald, the new chairman, said these changes complete the actions which the company regarded as essential after a six-month review of operations.

Nursing home buy for Stakis

Stakis, the Scottish leisure group, is paying £5.8 million for two companies, Dalmair and Bradley Court, which between them run three nursing homes near Glasgow, Edinburgh and Sheffield. The acquisition takes Stakis further into the healthcare business, where it has plans to build five nursing homes in Scottish and English city centres.

NMC jumps 50% to £6.3m

NMC Group, the packaging business 20 per cent owned by the Saatchi brothers, pushed pretax profits up by 50 per cent to £6.3 million last year. Earnings per share rose 44 per cent to 10.76p and a dividend of 2.3p a share, up 53 per cent, will be paid. Mr Norman Gordon, the chief executive, says he is seeking to expand the packaging side.

Leslie Wise purchase

Leslie Wise Group, the womenswear group, is paying £6.44 million for Jeanland, based in London, which manufactures blouses and separates and sells them through multiple stores and high street fashion chains in Britain and on the Continent.

Terms of the deal involve the payment of £2.3 million in cash, and the issue of £1.18 million of convertible loan stock and 2.65 million shares, valued at 55p each. A further £1.5 million in cash will be paid in three annual instalments. Jeanland, which made pretax profits of £900,000 for the year to end-September, on a turnover of £9.4 million, has warranted profits of at least £1.1 million for the present year and the next two years.

CSR selling mineral stake

CSR, the Australian industrial group, is withdrawing from mineral activities, except for a stake in bauxite and aluminium oxide, and is selling its subsidiary companies which hold Indonesian gold and exploration interests to Billiton Indonesia. The various sales will realize an estimated A\$125 million (£56 million).

BHP sells off metal interest

Broken Hill Proprietary (BHP) has completed its withdrawal from aluminium interests, following the agreement to sell its 20 per cent interest in the Worsley Alumina joint venture project in Western Australia to the other venture partners. BHP retains its stake in the associated Boddington gold mine, through its subsidiary BHP Gold Mines.

In two minds over cautious M&G

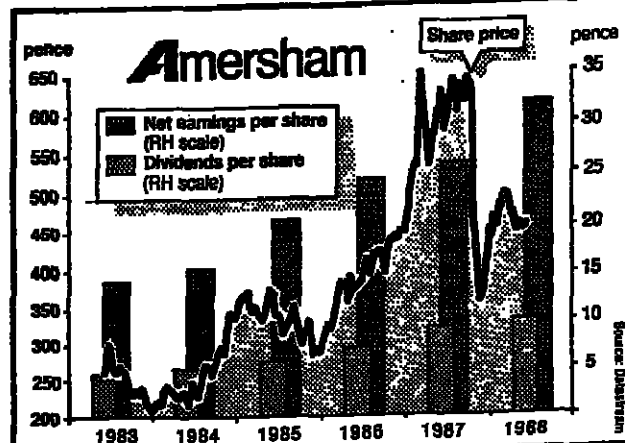
At face value, M&G Group's first set of results post-Black Monday look creditable enough, showing a rise in pretax profits in the six months to end-March, from a comparable £8.88 million to £10.7 million.

However, in looking at the running six months-on-six months trend, and comparing the latest figures with those of the immediately preceding six months, the new profits show a drop from £14.4 million.

After the reiteration of the January warning - that, unless conditions improve, the full year's profits may not match those seen last time round - then M&G shares had nowhere to go but down, though only modestly.

Had Mr Alan Bond, who now holds a 10 per cent slice, not been quite so busy funding his bid for Bell Resources, the Bond-factor might well have helped to counteract yesterday's market movement on the group's cautious statement.

The backwash from Black Monday has also seen net assets ease from 90.3p a share at September 30 to 83.9p a share at March 31. However, the underlying strength of M&G Group is still very evident with the number of unit holders up from 491,000 to 520,000 and the number of



policies in force rising from 272,000 to 316,000.

But investment thoughts are now centred on M&G's probably reporting lower year-end figures - possibly around £22 million, compared with an actual £23.3 million seen in the year end-September, 1987.

At 365p, down 5p, the shares trade on 19.1 times, which - discounting the Bond factor - is pricey. As with unit trusts, there is a time for buying and a time for selling, and some short-term trading opportunities in M&G shares could well be evident in the weeks ahead.

Those with a longer-term horizon should, however, continue to sit tight.

Sketchley

Sketchley had no trouble beating the very conservative £11.5 million profit forecast made at the time of the rights issue last September.

The £13.4 million achieved also judged over the City's more realistic estimates and after three years of flat profits, the 25 per cent jump at the pretax level is welcome.

Operating profits bounced 56 per cent higher to £16.9 million, after a £1 million property profit. Earnings per share, however, rose by only 3 per cent.

The company has now completed its reorganization, and this has greatly lessened its dependence on the volatile

British dry cleaning market and relieved it of its underperforming US and Canadian dry cleaners.

A hectic 24 acquisitions for £100 million in the last two years, which have given the group four separate sectors, now requires a period of consolidation.

Sketchley has promised that there are significant economies to be derived from better use of resources within the enlarged group and opportunities to sell more services to existing customers.

Profits this year will be helped by 12-month contributions from recent acquisitions, particularly Roboserv, the vending company, which was included for only five months last year.

They could reach £17 million giving a prospective p/e ratio of 11, the shares, up 3p at 393p, near their high for the year, are not cheap in this market.

While the historic yield of 6.5 per cent should help underpin the shares, they are unlikely to outperform until the acquisitions spree is yielding the desired results and earnings per share grow.

Amersham

There is only one thing wrong with Amersham, the specialist diagnostics company which

reported record turnover and profits for the eighth successive year. With 88 per cent of its output sold overseas, the strength of sterling is turning what should be a heady growth story into an everyday tale of medical folk.

Reported numbers are being held back by the pound, but turnover last year still rose 11 per cent to £165 million, and pretax profits jumped 14 per cent to £25 million. Judicious hedging and active treasury management minimized the impact on profits.

Looking ahead to 1989-90 and beyond there is still considerable potential for growth. In the past five years, it has invested £20 million in Amerlite, its immuno-chemistry system used in diagnostics. Its continuing development cost is now being covered by sales, allowing margins in the medical products division to grow from 10.5 per cent to 12.7 per cent.

Amerlite is selling well, as is Cerette, the brain-imaging agent used in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease. Simon Harris, a pharmaceutical analyst at County NatWest Wood Mac, forecasts pretax profits of £29 million this year, to give an above-average prospective rating of 13.2.

Amersham remains a small player in a market where there

has been significant concentration among the big companies.

After BP's successful takeover of Britoil, investors may regard Amersham's Articles of Association, which puts a 15 per cent limit on any individual shareholding, as being more restrictive than the golden share. But it is unlikely to prove insuperable.

Hanson

Now here is a neat idea: Hanson the quarry rather than Hanson the hunter. In line with other companies that have a string of brand names to their credit, the sum of Hanson's parts is worth more than the market valuation of the whole. Smith New Court's Bruce Davidson calculates that a bidder could borrow £10.5 billion, twice the market capitalization, to bid for Hanson and cover his interest cost with profits from the business.

Who better to break up Hanson than its two architects, Lord Hanson and Sir Gordon White? A management buyout would provide a suitable climax to the company's astonishing history, says Davidson.

It may be far-fetched, but it does point out Hanson's fundamental undervaluation on a prospective p/e ratio of 8.3, backed by a potential 6.1 per cent yield at 135p.

STOCK MARKET

Morgan jumps on Deutsche bid talk

Stale bulls of Morgan Grenfell were given a fillip on the first day of the new account when shares of the merchant bank jumped 12p to 303p amid revived takeover talk.

Speculators chased the shares higher on talk that Deutsche Bank, which already holds a stake of just under 5 per cent, has taken up the running from Mr Alan Bond, the Australian businessman, and is ready to make a corporate move on Morgan Grenfell.

Speculators chased MG higher last month amid intense speculation that Mr Bond, who recently increased his stake in the company to more than 8 per cent, was about to increase it to around the 29.9 per cent level by acquiring Willis Faber's 21 per cent stake.

Now it appears, that Mr Bond is a seller of his Morgan Grenfell stock after being forced by the Australian authorities to make a £375 million bid for Bell Group in Australia.

The German bank is ready with the money and has apparently already sounded out Willis Faber for its shareholding, the sale of which could be announced soon. Deutsche could reveal full bid terms for Morgan Grenfell soon.

A few other firm features emerged in the bank sector with Standard Chartered, the other perennial takeover favourite, up a further 11p at 493p on continuing speculation that Bell Group's near-15

per cent stake had been sold to a predator.

Singer & Friedlander, one of the City's smallest merchant banks, moved up 4p to 80p on hopes of a 100p-plus bid from Mr John Gunn's British & Commonwealth, which already has a 10.4 per cent stake in the company.

Guinness Mahon, the newly independent merchant bank after its approved demerger from GFG, opened at 90p and improved steadily to close at 104p.

Shares of GFG closed at 57p after the demerger.

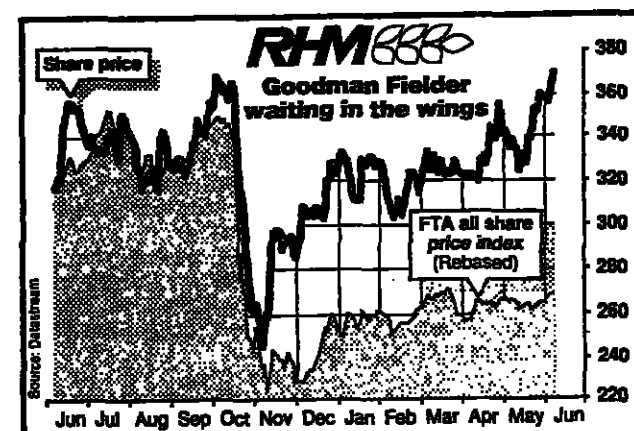
Elsewhere, equities shrugged aside the second increase in base lending rates in three

Vibroplant, the plant hire group, jumped 20p to 725p. It has changed its broker to James Capel and is expected to announce share-stimulating proposals to enhance the stock's marketability, with the forthcoming results. Dealers forecast pretax profits of £7 million against £4.6 million last time.

trading days and closed at their best levels of the day.

Dealers took a positive view and were generally pleased with the Government's move to combat inflationary dangers. The steady performance of Wall Street in the first hours of trading also helped sentiment, while hopes of fresh corporate activity in the next few days kept interest alive.

The FT-SE 100-share index moved strongly ahead in the



late afternoon to finish 13.5 points higher at 1,832.7, while the narrower FT 30-share index ended 8.4 points up at 1,452.8.

Gilts were encouraged by the brighter implications for inflation and closed with gains ranging to 1/2p.

Ranks' management last month reported an impressive set of interim results, showing a rise of more than a third to £72.5 million and is obviously ready to defend vigorously against any hostile antipodean takeover attempt.

Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery and chocolate group, rose by 12p to 408p on a turnover of 4.4 million shares, as speculators continued to pin their hopes on an eventual bid by General Cinema of the US, which already has a 18.4 per cent stake in the company and bank finance readily available.

During that time, Goodman has been refused boardroom representation and was rejected when it tried to arrange a partnership deal.

As expected, shares of Arthur Shaw, the windows and patio doors group, made a good start when dealings commenced on the Unlisted Securities Market.

Placed at 105p by Guidehouse Securities, the broker, the shares opened at 116p and touched 119p before closing at 115p, for an opening premium of 10p.

Shares of Leigh Interests, the waste disposal contractor, continue to go from strength to strength, closing a further 10p higher at 253p.

Recently, investors have been chasing the shares higher in anticipation of a bumper set of annual results on Thursday. The company has forecast

Shares of FKI Babcock rose 5p to 127p on news that it was considering floating its US businesses. Panmure Gordon, the broker, rate them a buy after the good results and forecasts £105 million for the current year.

Trading is buoyant and a 28 per cent discount to the prospective overall market p/e of 10.5 is excessive.

pretax profits of not less than £4 million, against £2.5 million previously.

Yesterday's rise was accompanied by takeover chatter. A Caird & Sons, the

acquisitive waste disposal and property group, holds a 5.47 per cent stake in LI, and is said to be on the verge of selling it to BET, and that a full-scale offer for LI will follow.

Nu-Swift Industries, the fire extinguisher manufacturer and distributor, advanced 11p to 317p and this led to revived speculation that ADT - formerly Hawley - which owns a 20.3 per cent stake in the company, is adding to its holding prior to launching a full-scale bid.

Nu-Swift last month reported a 64 per cent leap in annual pretax profits to £24.4 million, with most of the improvement coming from its French operations.

The activities of one large buyer of Adwest, the diversified Berkshire engineer and property developer, during the past few weeks has led many dealers to believe that a stake-building operation is under way.

The shares jumped a further 28p to 350p as the mystery buyer continued to make his presence felt. Late last night, dealers were suggesting BTR, the industrial conglomerate, could well make a move.

Geoffrey Foster

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TAJ INTERNATIONAL HOTELS

HT Hughes hits profit forecast

By Alison Eadie

HT Hughes, the waste management, demolition and transport group which joined the USM in February, made pretax profits in the year to end-February of £1.4 million, up 53 per cent. The group had forecast profits of not less than £1.35 million.

Demand continues to grow both in the hiring of skips and the volumes being disposed of at landfill sites, the company said. Chalk quarrying pro-

duced substantial revenues and good progress was made in seeking future sites for mineral extraction and landfill. Landfill air space reserves - the holes into which the rubbish is tipped - increased by 25 per cent last year, giving the group at least 20 years of future sites.

Earnings per share were 5.7p against 3.6p. The company is not paying a final dividend, but has forecast a 2.25p a share payout this year.

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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	1988	1987
Year to 31st March	£'000	£'000
Property sales and related activities	31,403	19,719
Profit before taxation	11,266	4,650
Earnings per share	6.8p	3.5p
Dividends per share	2.25p	1.125p

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مكتبة الأصل

Bankers see UK influence growing in world economy

From Bailey Morris, Chicago

Britain's increasing role as an international capital zone has dramatically altered the traditional pattern of global financial flows, say leading international bankers who expect its influence on the world economy to grow in importance.

This was one of the key themes of the opening session of the International Monetary Conference in Chicago.

Michel Francois-Poncet, chief executive of Banque Paribas, said the traditional axis of north-south financial flows no longer existed. It had been replaced by capital movements within the "golden triangle" of London, New York and Tokyo.

Within the triangle, London's role has been expanded and will continue to grow

quickly as dollar-based investors from the US and Asia seek to diversify their investments in other currency zones. After the 1992 reforms in Europe, London's role will be even larger, according to M Francois-Poncet and other bankers at the conference.

But the emergence of the triangle and the huge movement of capital within it had brought new risks for international banking. Banks had moved from the time bomb of Third World debt to a new game that may be even more dangerous.

Cross-border investment within the banking community is now focused on mergers and acquisitions and leveraged buyout financing, which are risky, particularly in the high stakes deals which

result in hostile takeovers. The conference coincided with private talks by international banks on the growing trend towards global regulation of banks, as measured by the capital standards proposed by the Bank for International Settlements. The BIS is expected this summer to ratify rules requiring banks involved in cross-border transactions to achieve a capital-asset ratio of 8 per cent within a five-year period.

This was seen as the first step by world central banks to regulate the industry on a global basis.

For British, Canadian and West German banks the new standards present almost no problem. But the impact on Japanese banks, which have the lowest capital ratios in the

world, was expected to be dramatic.

"The new capital guidelines will induce Japanese banks to increase their ownership of Japanese government bonds because of their zero risk weight," said a leading banker. Officials said it would either slow Japan's expansion to merchant banking and other activities or accelerate the pace of de-regulation in the Tokyo market.

Mr Michael Blumenthal, Unisys chief, told the conference that the growing interdependence of the world financial system required new institutions and new ways of negotiating. He said the wave of the future was the implementation of regional, not multi-lateral initiatives.

'Poison pill' is planned at Amax

By Colin Campbell

Amax, the diversified United States natural resources group which in 1981 was threatened by a hostile bid at \$78.50 from Socal, the oil company, is drawing up "poison pill" proposals so that it can defend itself against any future unwelcome takeover.

Amax, whose current share price is about \$20 (£11.11), said yesterday that this is now a growing practice among leading US corporations, and that as far as it is aware "nobody is on the prowl."

The "poison pill" procedure has been adopted by 500 US corporations in recent years, and by at least 40 large groups since Black Monday when share prices fell heavily. "The Amax board decided it was time we also addressed the question," a spokesman said.

Under the group's "poison pill" proposals, Amax shareholders are being offered one right for each share owned, which would be exercisable only after a third party acquired 20 per cent or more of Amax, or announced a tender offer to acquire 30 per cent.

Each right entitles the holder to buy half of an Amax share for \$35. Alternatively, the holder can elect the right to buy shares in the acquirer - which in effect would frustrate a hostile takeover.

Amax may redeem the right "at any time before they become exercisable and in certain other circumstances" at 5 cents a share.

Other US corporations now planning similar "poison pill" procedures include Avon Products, Bankers Trust, International Paper, and Xerox.

Amax, which was hit financially in the mid 1980s by lower metal prices, has in recent years pulled itself back from the financial brink, and recently resumed the payment of quarterly dividends.

Howden court case starts

Committal proceedings on fraud and theft charges began at Guildhall, City of London, yesterday against Mr Ian Posgate, the former Lloyd's underwriter and three former directors of the Alexander Howden Group. The other men are Mr Jack Carpenter, the former deputy chairman, Mr Colin Hart, a former Lloyd's underwriter and Mr Kenneth Grob, the former Alexander Howden chairman.

COMMENT

Burst of enthusiasm for Mr Cube after canings

Poor Neil Shaw must be wondering what should be done in order to warm the City's reaction to Tate & Lyle. During the past few years, Mr Shaw has skillfully steered the group through some rough water. He has had to contend with the massively bureaucratic EEC sugar regime, with its quotas, import restrictions and inbuilt favouring of beet sugar refiners at the expense of those such as T&L which use cane.

His move to get more deeply into beet sugar through the attempted purchase of S&W Berisford, the parent company of British Sugar Corporation, ran into a brick wall erected by the MSC.

Mr Shaw's arguments that he should be allowed to build a strong unified British sugar industry to cope with the onslaught of the larger Continental manufacturers sound fresh and relevant in the context of the battles over chocolate. A few years ago though, this smacked of self-interest and special pleading. Such are the pitfalls for those ahead of their time.

Undaunted, Mr Shaw and his colleagues switched their attentions elsewhere and, after a rough confrontation with the management of Staley International, a victorious T&L can now boast it is the largest manufacturer of sweeteners in the US market. Throughout these setbacks, the management has delivered a highly acceptable performance. During the five years to next September profits will have climbed 87 per cent if market forecasts for this year prove to be accurate. Mr Shaw's reward was a niggardly share rating, implying

T&L's mainstream business lacks quality to a remarkable extent.

But there is much more to T&L's management than passive acceptance that it relies on some mighty tough markets for its living. Yesterday brought a flicker, maybe even a burst of enthusiasm, for Mr Cube in the City on the unambiguously excellent news that three weeks after the Staley purchase, almost half the cost has been recouped by selling surplus assets. Could this betoken some belated recognition in the City?

T&L's shares are intriguingly torn between bull and bear factors. But at present the scope on the upside far outweighs any counter arguments. T&L is maddeningly prevented from the standard corporate route to reshaping its balance sheet - a good old-fashioned rights issue - by the miserable rating of its shares. Looking ahead to 1989, when the full benefits of Staley will be included, profits might reach £150 million and earnings per share could emerge at 110p, according to BZW, giving an earnings multiple of little more than 7 on today's 791p share price.

But the low-tech bulk commodity producer of today may be close to a switch to a high-quality income stream based on intensive sweeteners such as its joint venture with Johnson & Johnson, Sucralose. The market for such products is vast, in the US alone. With the Sucralose launch perhaps as close as next financial year, it would be wise to give T&L's management a little more benefit of the doubt.

The Bank takes control

To raise base rates once is unfortunate, as Oscar Wilde might have said, to have to do so twice in three trading days smacks of carelessness. But, in fact, the decision to go for "the other half" of last Thursday's base rate increase at the earliest opportunity has probably allowed the Bank of England to grab back the initiative on monetary policy from the markets.

The Bank's move indicates quite a degree of concern about overheating pressures, which are showing up in a wide range of indicators. House prices are rising at a rate which is troubling Bank and Treasury officials.

Consumer credit is still growing strongly, with the apparent slowdown in April merely due to the timing of the Easter holidays. Any hopes that consumer demand was tailing off were dashed by yesterday's upward revision in the April retail sales figures.

As important as pay trends. With productivity growth slowing, the last thing the economy can afford is an acceleration in pay increases. But the CBI's pay databank shows this is just what is occurring.

Manufacturing pay settlements averaged 6 per cent in the first quarter, up

from 5.5 per cent in the final quarter of last year and the highest quarterly figure for nearly two years. Settlements in service industries, at 6.9 per cent on average, are running at their highest level since the second half of 1985.

The big question is whether the two base rate increases since noon on Thursday will cool those areas where the economy is overheating. Credit, house prices and pay are notoriously immune to interest rate changes. Indeed, the main short-term effect of the past few days is likely to be to push inflation higher, as sterling's fall boosts import prices.

There has been a symmetry about the base rate response to sterling's fall, with the new base rate level of 8.5 per cent established roughly at the point where rates were last cut to this level. But it is sensible not to take this analysis too far. The general view is that the authorities will be content to get back to 9 per cent base rates and a DM3 pound - the mix prevailing before the March uncapping of the pound.

But concern about inflation has been heightened since early spring. It may well be the target is for a somewhat higher level, both for sterling and base rates, than prevailed then.

Braithwaite moves into the black

By Our City Staff

Braithwaite, the fast-growing industrial holding company, is paying its first dividend since 1985 with a final payment of 4.5p net.

It revealed pretax profits yesterday of £3.72 million, against a loss of £248,000 the previous year, meeting its profits forecast made during the agreed takeover bid for SPP, the Reading, Berkshire, designer and supplier of fluid handling systems.

Braithwaite's turnover jumped from £8 million to £30 million last year and earnings per share were 24.8p.

The principal contributor to profits was the Andrews division, which distributes and hires portable heating, air conditioning, cleaning and drying equipment.

For the 10 months Andrews has been a part of the group, it contributed operating profits of more than £4 million, despite the mild winter.

The engineering division was restructured during the year to eliminate its loss-making activities and reorganize the remaining businesses.

The company said that the acquisition of SPP will allow the group to become one of the leading specialist equipment hire operations in Britain, through the combination of Andrews and Sykes, a subsidiary of SPP. Integrating Andrews with Sykes will lead to cost savings, and will allow the Andrews products to be distributed more widely.



Amersham's Dr Stuart Burgess (left) and Sir Edwin Nixon (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Amersham at record £25m

By Carol Fergusson

Amersham International, the manufacturer of radioactive materials and medical diagnostic equipment, has produced record profits for the eighth consecutive year. Pretax profits jumped 14 per cent to £25.3 million on turnover up 11 per cent to £165 million.

The market was pleasantly surprised by the results and the share price held steady at 460p. Analysts had previously downgraded their profits fore-

casts for Amersham in the light of sterling's strength - Amersham exports 88 per cent of its turnover. However, Sir Edwin Nixon, the chairman, gave a warning that Amersham's financial performance will continue to be affected by currency factors.

Sir Edwin said that the worst impacts of the strengthened pound and its effect on increasing competition were avoided by productivity im-

provement and effective treasury management.

"Our aim is to grow faster, both through organic growth in our core business and through acquisitions in related business," he said. "In the early stages we were product-pushed, how we are moving towards being marketing-led."

The dividend was increased by 22 per cent, to 10p net.

Times, page 26

Borthwicks jumps to £511,000 at half time

By Michael Tate

Borthwicks, the food group forced by losses to sell its Australian operations in January, is recovering. Pretax profits for the six months to end-March are up from just £37,000 last time - there was a £2.2 million loss for the full year - to £511,000.

The figure does not include £588,000 net profits made on the £10.8 million Australian sale, included as an extraordinary item. But the disposal

is reflected in the sharp fall in the interest charge, from £1.25 million to £710,000.

The sale has almost eliminated the group's once-overwhelming debts, said Mr Lewis Robertson, Borthwicks' chairman, yesterday.

The British companies showed a useful improvement in operating profit, while the remaining international businesses were disappointing, Mr Robertson added.

Meetings by satellite network planned

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Europe's first satellite business communication network, enabling companies to hold live conferences with subsidiaries throughout the continent, will be announced today.

The network will be operated by the Business Television Corporation, a joint venture by Cable Corporation, JC Penney Communications and the Private Satellite Network of the US, and Swedish

Telecoms International. BTC signs an agreement today with Crest Hotels, whose British and European hotels will be equipped with receiving equipment and television screens, turning them into international conference centres.

Companies will be able to hire the network initially centred in leading British cities and European capitals - on an hourly or daily rate

Dark side of a debut

Despite a surprise 14p share price premium, the debut of Guinness Mahon on the stock market yesterday was not, I hear, an entirely happy affair. For behind the demerger of the merchant bank from GPG were the redundancies of some 100 members of staff. They have all lost their jobs, am told, since Geoffrey Bell took over as executive deputy chairman earlier this year. With the intention of cutting costs, he reduced the total staff from around 800 to 700, and has consequently incurred severance pay expenses of up to £2 million. Keeping a wary eye on developments within Guinness Mahon are the constituent parts of the business, including the merchant bank, the stockbroker Henderson Crosthwaite, two market-making firms and Guinness Mahon's fund management offshoot, Guinness Flight, which has £1.5 billion under management. More than one of them has, I hear, been having tentative talks with potential predators, in case the path of the newly demerged company should not, in the event, run smoothly. Describing internal reaction to the demerger as "neutral", one insider tells me: "With settled and proper management it could be an extremely good business. But if there is continued uncertainty you could start to see parts of the business walking out of the door." Perhaps, in the end, that premium is not so surprising after all.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

HK Bank withdrawals

The job loss toll from Hong-kong and Shanghai Bank, following the reduction of its retail banking activities in its Bishopsgate, London, office is, I can reveal, 42. The bank has been winding down its retail activities since 1984, when it acquired a 14.9 per cent stake in Midland Bank. Even more staff members were laid off earlier, in two batches, but following these latest sackings a spokesman said there were

unlikely to be any more "for the time being." The retail office has, however, not been entirely closed down. It will cease to operate current accounts, security accounts and security services. "We are trying to move away from the man in the street," the bank says. "Unless, of course, you're megamark." "Private banking facilities to high net worth individuals will continue to be offered," it adds.

Tidy mind

Lynton Jones, executive director for Europe of Nasdaq, is clearly one of that growing City breed which would not be seen dead with anything remotely resembling a Filofax. Multi-talented Jones has won a competition launched in the

City Diary earlier this year to invent a name for a revolutionary desk-tidy system designed by ex-Guards officer Richard Elliot-Square. His winning entry was Desk FX and won him a £100 leather-bound personal organizer. But Jones has, I hear, declined to accept the prize, requesting that a £100 donation be made to Comic Relief instead.

Foiled a gain

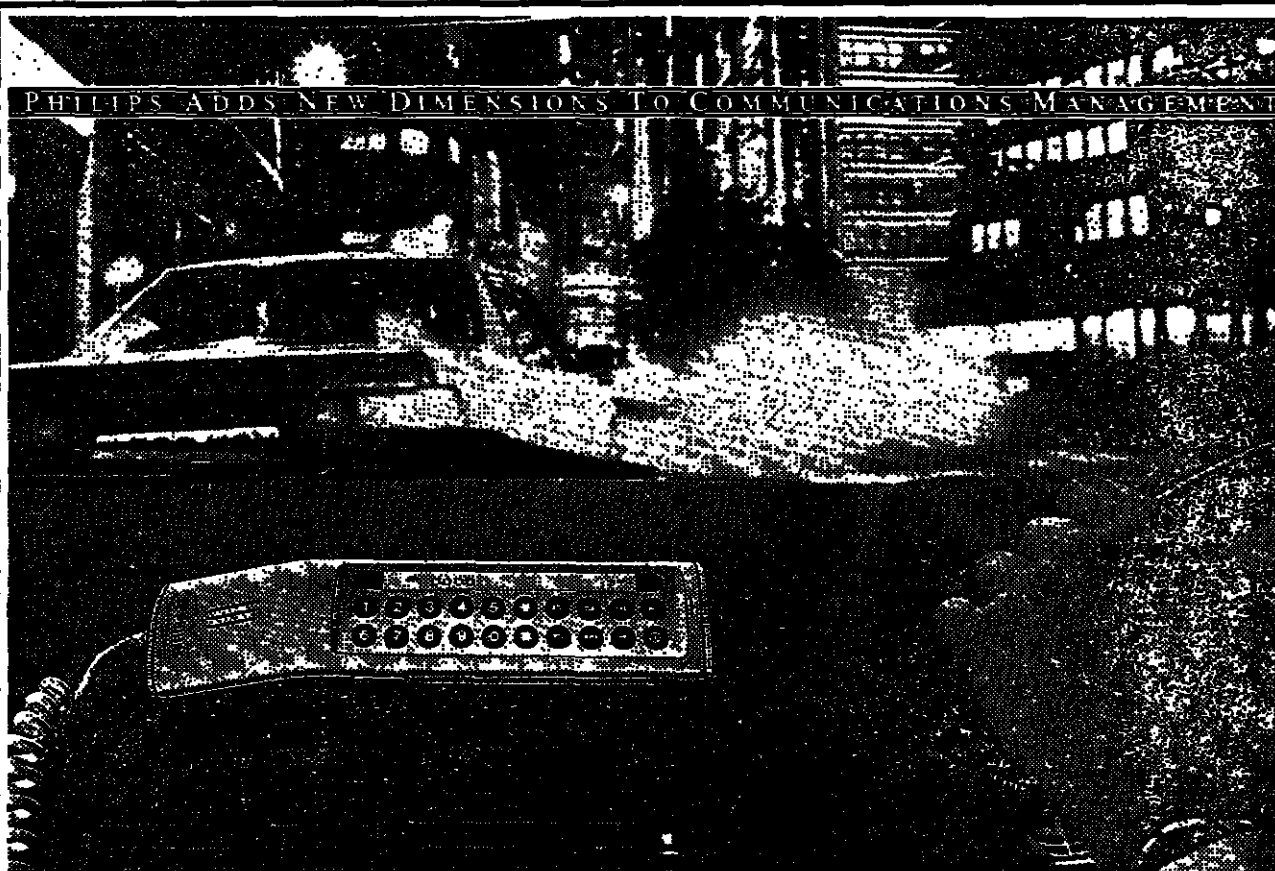
You could soon be getting your bank statement on a postcard - but the postman will not be any the wiser. The postcards, backed with adhesive aluminium foil to conceal their written content, have just gone on sale in Japan and are being snapped up by banks. Tokyo stock market firms which regularly send out confidential statements to their clients

Building a new image

Has the arrival of former Dixons man Gerald Corbett as finance director of Redland, the building materials giant, got anything to do with the glitzy image the company is presenting to the City? I hear that some 20 institutional fund managers will today be whizzed around the country in two helicopters bearing the Redland logo. Starting at Bidden Wood quarry in Leicestershire, they will fly to a tile plant in Gloucestershire before touching down at a brick plant in Dorset, Surrey. Presentations at each venue will be made by the three new boys on the Redland board - jovial George Phillipson, the elder statesman at 49, who is in charge of the group's aggregates operation; Peter Johnson, aged 41, who masterminded the company's brick interests and is well-known for insisting on a dry sherry before lunch, and the baby of them all, Kevin Abbott, aged 33, who runs the roof tile operation. His elevation to the corporate heights means that Abbott once a research analyst at J Henry Schroder Wagg, the merchant bank is now the company's youngest board member.

● The Japanese have unveiled a video telephone for domestic use, allowing callers to see still images of the person on the other end of the line. Expected to cost around \$400 (£220) each, they should soon be exported to Europe and the US.

Carol Leonard

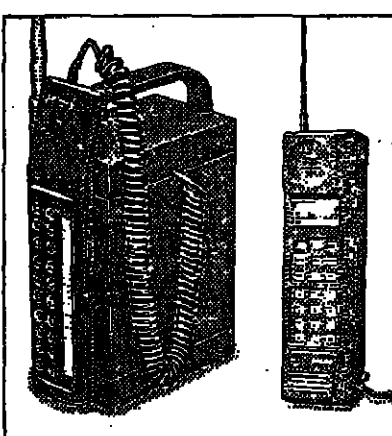


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PHILIPS

Static textile demand hits growth rates

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

World demand for fibres will remain at modest levels, with annual growth of 2.3 per cent a year likely to 1993.

This is the conclusion drawn from new estimates in a report by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

It points out that, between 1980 and 1983, there has been virtually no growth in world demand.

In the 1970s, there were annual growth rates of 2.5 per cent — a decline from the 4.3 per cent rates seen in the previous decade.

The switch of fibre processing to developing countries, with their lower labour costs, has been continuing, the report says.

The United States and Western Europe in particular have seen their industries contract, as processing has gone to China and other parts of East and South-east Asia.

In the early 1970s, the US and Europe carried out 36 per cent of the primary textile

processing, but that share has fallen to 28 per cent.

Mill consumption of fibres to produce textiles is expected to rise in China by more than 60 per cent by 1993, while a decline is forecast in US consumption.

The EEC can expect a rise in consumption of about 3 per cent between now and 1993.

Additional demand for textiles emerging in Western industrialized countries is expected to be met mostly from Far East production.

Clothing imports into the US have been growing at 15 per cent a year since 1979, which means they would account for 83 per cent of total final consumption by 1995 if the trend continues.

That would seem to be an unacceptable level, against which government action to trim back imports is likely, says the report.

Textile Outlook International No. 17: £60 from EIU, 40 Duke Street, London W1A 1DW.

Industry told to prepare for 1992

By Our Industrial Editor

Textiles productivity has moved ahead sharply as exports have risen, Mr Barry Spencer, chairman of the British Textile Confederation, said in London.

Productivity rose 8 per cent last year, compared with a 2 per cent improvement in 1986. But throughout the present decade, productivity has been on a rising trend, improving by 52 per cent since 1980.

The tone was set in 1981, when there was a 10 per cent improvement. Investment in the industry last year was up 12 per cent.

Mr Spencer appealed for the reviving British industry to act now to prepare for 1992's single European market.

He said: "Much of the opportunity for trading growth already exists and the prizes will be gained by the early starters."

There had been a heartening growth already in exports to other Community national markets, said Mr Spencer. In 1987, textile exports there had risen 14 per cent and clothing

exports by 29 per cent, he pointed out.

The investment surge was welcomed by Mr John Major, Chief Secretary of the Treasury, who also spoke at the lunch.

He said the investment on new machinery had been dramatic, but added that growth also depended on investment in marketing.

Mr Major said: "Only by producing goods to a high standard and providing value for money to the consumer will the industry continue to grow and meet the challenges of your overseas competitors. The textile industry's performance in this area is already showing a marked improvement."

He also underlined the importance of education and training, which had seemed to be a casualty in the years of textile industry decline. Training in the industry still seemed relatively weak and the reports of skill shortages told their own story.

An EEC merger policy is essential to keep out Europe's free riders

Edward McMillan-Scott, the MEP for York, argues that the Suchard bid for Rowntree should be referred to the Monopolies Commission while EEC agrees priorities for 1992 marketplace

The real Little Englanders in the Rowntree case are not the people of York and their politicians but those who fail to accept a European solution to a European problem.

The Swiss want Rowntree because it is ready for the single European market of 1992. Whitehall is not.

It is in Britain's interest to encourage a European Economic Community-wide merger strategy which both liberalizes the laws of EEC countries and provides ground rules which can be respected by "outsiders".

Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, missed the opportunity of a Monopolies Commission inquiry into the Nestlé bid for Rowntree to examine our attitude to 1992-style mergers.

He and other industry ministers — but not the Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary — took pains to let Switzerland off the hook. Their respective practices, he claims, are their loss.

In February 1983 the Swiss government promulgated a law which would restrict Swiss companies from writing their own rules to block foreign bids and shareholdings.

However, the bill has been drifting in the notoriously protectionist Swiss parliament for five years because, as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development comments, "a marked divergence of views between the two chambers."

The British Government's Blue Paper on merger policy, published in March, does not develop the 1992 dimension. It even states "the subject of the review reported here has been UK mergers control, operated by the UK national authorities, and has not included the future of EEC merger control."

However, on June 22, EEC ministers meet to look once again at a proposal for an EEC regulation covering mergers and takeovers.

The merger control regulation has been blocked in its various forms by France and Britain since 1973, although it would provide the common ground rules we need for the European single market.

The proposed regulation would require prior vetting of mergers where worldwide turnover exceeded £700 million and EEC market share would exceed 20 per cent.

Lord Young wrote to me on May 16 to say that "we are participating constructively in working group discussions, but 'without commitment to our final position' on the merger control regulation."

Press reports say that resistance to the EEC measure is coming from Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, who fears that the Bank of England could lose its power of veto over any foreign bids for holdings of more than 15 per cent of British banks.

A distinction is apparently being drawn in Whitehall between banking and other forms of economic activity, such as making chocolates.

I met Herr Martin Bange, the retiring West German economics minister, recently to discuss the Rowntree case. He said a European merger policy was "essential as we approach 1992."

It is clear that the Germans, whose own commercial laws are more restrictive than ours and who stand to lose much more "sovereignty," are determined to use their presidency of the EEC to push through the merger controls.

In France, the Conseil de Concurrence and in Germany, the Kartellamt, are the national watchdogs. They operate on the same lines as Britain's Office of Fair Trading. In France, as in Britain, 25 per cent of market share can constitute a monopoly, in Germany it is 30 per cent.

Both countries are investigating the effect on their



Still fighting: Edward McMillan-Scott in Strasbourg with Rowntree brands which the Swiss are desperate to acquire

own territory of a Rowntree merger: both are capable of requiring divestment.

If the French or Germans find that a merged Rowntree could be anti-competitive it will underline the need for a Community solution.

At the European Commission in Brussels, Lord Cockfield, the architect of the 1992 programme, told me that his intention was to improve competition in Europe. There would be much restructuring of industry, he said. But to be effective, there must be respect for EEC legislation.

The corporate perestroika of 1992 is causing outsiders like the Americans and Japanese,

as well as countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) — Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland — to reassess their relationships with the Community. On June 12 and 13, EFTA trade ministers meet M Willy de Clerq, the European Commissioner for external relations, to discuss terms.

It is essential that EFTA does not become the European Free Ride Association, and we should be deploying both political and economic muscle to prevent it. Lord Young seems unwilling to use either against Switzerland, EFTA's leading member.

In 1984, when Nestlé was

bidding for Carnation, the Office of Fair Trading recommended a reference to the Monopolies Commission.

This was rejected by Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade Secretary at that time. Perhaps Sir Gordon Borrie of the OFT is once bitten, twice shy, like the consumers of Nestlé's other British acquisitions such as Findus, Crosse & Blackwell, Libby's canned fruits and Ashbourne mineral waters. All have seen their market share halved since 1979.

The Swiss are using financial muscle where marketing strategies have failed. A Brussels newsletter, *Agence Europe*, reports that the Swiss insurance company Winterthur has just bought the Italian company Intercontinental Assicurazioni because this will "allow it to sell car insurance in the 12 EEC member states, from Italy."

A conference taking place next month at the College of Europe in Bruges on the EEC and EFTA under the title "More than just good friends?" enjoys four commercial sponsors — all Swiss: Ciba-Geigy, Nestlé, Sandoz and Winterthur. Last month, Sandoz altered its share structure to block further foreign investors.

In the chocolate sector, Rowntree has demonstrated its ability to create new products like Lion Bar and sell them throughout Europe. It now sells more After Eight on the Continent than in Britain, and employs 3,000 workers at factories in France, Germany and the Netherlands.

Nestlé has bought the Italian firm Perugina and fought unsuccessfully against Suchard last January for control of Côte d'Or, the leading Belgian chocolate maker.

The Swiss strategy — to ride piggy-back on established EEC companies all the way to 1992 — is clear. Britain should stand by Rowntree until we have reconciled ourselves to 1992.

The Suchard bid — formalized since the OFT recommendation — should now be referred to the MMC. That would give us, and the Swiss parliament, three months to sort out priorities.

Mr McMillan-Scott is also the national co-ordinator of the Conservative 1992 Clubs.

Oil rig demand nears record

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The latest figures for exploration-rig hiring confirm Government predictions that the North Sea offshore industry is about to enter a new phase of development.

This summer every available jack-up rig for exploring in the shallower waters of the southern sector of the North Sea has been contracted, the first time since September 1985 that there has been 100 per cent utilization.

There are now 44 jack-up rigs operating in the North Sea — the record was 46 — and there are signs that some contractors are moving surplus capacity from the Gulf of Mexico across the Atlantic to take advantage of the higher activity in the North Sea.

However, many rigs idle in the Gulf of Mexico are comparatively unsophisticated and unable to meet the needs of North Sea drilling. Many would also need expensive modifications to meet North Sea certification standards.

Petrodata, the oil industry consultant, said: "The stream of new inquiries for jack-ups shows no sign of abating. Operators are tendering for as far ahead as October as a hedge against the shortfall. During the summer the shortage may frustrate as many as five requirements until rigs begin to come free in October. Without any new requirements at all full employment would extend beyond October."

"The summer peak of spot drilling programmes coincides with the start of a number of long-term contracts, typically for development drilling. Several contracts for up to three years are due to start this autumn with no rig selected."

Rig owners are now able to demand twice the hire rates they were asking last year.

Property sale

Property Security Investment Trust has sold its Ceribit Investments offshoot for £3 million. Ceribit's only asset is the Thameside Industrial Estate, at Silvertown in London's East End, valued at £1.75 million in the balance sheet.

Standard Chartered

Base Rate

On and after 7th June 1988 Standard Chartered Bank's Base Rate for lending is being increased from 8.00% to 8.50%

Standard Chartered Bank
Head Office 38 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4DE
Tel. 01-280 7500 Telex 885951

Barclays Bank Base Rate.

Barclays Bank PLC and Barclays Bank Trust Company Limited announce that with effect from 6th June 1988 their Base Rate increased from 8% to 8½%

BARCLAYS

Barclays Bank PLC and Barclays Bank Trust Company Limited are members of LMRB
Reg. Office: 54 Lombard St., EC3P 3AH, Reg. No's 1026167 and 920880



Coutts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is increased from 8.00% to 8.50% per annum with effect from the 7th June, 1988 until further notice.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate linked to Coutts Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

Coutts & Co
440 Strand, London, WC2R 0QS



National Westminster Bank PLC

NatWest announces that with effect from and including Tuesday 7th June 1988 its Base Rate is increased from 8.00% to 8.50% per annum.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to NatWest Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

Bank of Scotland Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from Monday 6th June 1988 its Base Rate will be increased from 8.00% per annum to 8.50% per annum.

BANK OF SCOTLAND
A FRIEND FOR LIFE

Lloyds Bank Base Rate.

Lloyds Bank Plc has increased its Base Rate from 8 per cent to 8.5 per cent p.a. with effect from Monday 6 June 1988.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to Lloyds Bank Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

The change in Base Rate will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branch of The National Bank of New Zealand Limited.



THE THOROUGHFARE BANK.

Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BN



Girobank plc Base Rate

Girobank announces that with effect from close of business on 6 June 1988 its Base Rate was increased from 8.0% to 8.5% per annum.

Reg Office: 10 Milk Street London EC2V 6JH
Reg No: 1950000



The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

Base Rate

The Royal Bank of Scotland announces that with effect from close of business on 7 June 1988 its Base Rate for advances will be increased from 8% to 8½% per annum.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc (Incorporated in Scotland) Registered Office: 211 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2BS. Registered in Scotland No. 90212.

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EXCHANGES

UP at 76.3 (day's range 76.2-76.5).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Australia (bank)	17.6782-17.9140
Australia (cable)	2.2717-2.2745
Bahian dollar	0.6770-0.6810
Brazil cruzeiro	200.31-207.86
Cyprus pound	0.8150-0.8550
Finland marks	7.2675-7.2675
French franc	6.55-6.5658
Hong Kong dollar	14.1810-14.0892
India rupee	24.41-24.91
Japanese yen	360.00-360.00
Malaysia ringgit	0.6541-0.6585
Mexico peso	40.04-0.4140
New Zealand dollar	2.5985-2.5948
Saudi Arabian riyal	6.2725-6.2675
Singapore dollar	0.8247-0.8356
S A Rand	2.9169-2.9198
S Africa rand (cont.)	2.9235-0.0295
U A E dirham	6.8500-6.8300

*Libyan Bank Rates supplied by
Exel and Barclays Bank HOFEX.*

RATES

5.575-5.575	Italy	1277.5-1278.5
1.7110-1.7110	Hong Kong (Cont.)	90.36-90.10
1.4355-1.4365	Hong Kong	7.8165-7.8167
1.4355-1.4365	Portugal	140.70-141.10
5.8100-5.8150	Spain	113.59-113.69
126.24-126.34	Austria	12.09-12.10

supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Exel.

MARKETS

UP 50.25 (range 50.25-50.50)

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
7 1/2% ¹	7 1/2% ¹	7 1/2% ¹	7 1/2% ¹	7 1/2% ¹
Deutsche marks:				
Call: 7 1/2%	3 1/4-3 1/4	3 1/4-3 1/4	3 1/4-3 1/4	3 1/4-3 1/4
French franc:				
Call: 7 1/2%	7 1/2-7 1/2	7 1/2-7 1/2	7 1/2-7 1/2	7 1/2-7 1/2
Italian lire:				
Call: 2 1/2%	2 1/2-2 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	3-2%
Yen:				
Call: 2 1/2%	3 1/4-3 1/4	4 1/4-4 1/4	4 1/4-4 1/4	4 1/4-4 1/4

GOLD

Open: \$444.00-464.50 Close: \$448.00-463.50
High: \$447.75-465.25 Low: \$443.00-463.50

COIN:

Per coin (Ex Vat)

Britannia:	\$447.00-479.00 (\$256.50-287.50)
Krugger:	\$481.00-494.00 (\$256.50-287.50)
Gold: 31.2%	\$477.00-479.00 (\$256.50-287.50)
American Eagles:	\$477.00-479.00 (\$256.50-287.50)
New Sovereigns:	\$109.00-110.00 (\$60.50-61.25)
Old Sovereigns:	\$109.00-110.00 (\$60.50-61.25)
Platinum:	\$672.50 (\$340.10)
Palladium:	\$173.00 (\$73.85)

Set: \$7.31-7.37 (\$4.05-4.07)

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Portfolio
— PLUS NEW —
Accumulator

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000
Claims required for 44 points
ACCUMULATOR £70,000
Claims better than 44 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

● Ex dividend & Ex all b Forecast dividend ● Inter payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend at yield exclude a special payment & Pre-merger figures Forecast earnings o Ex other f Ex rights & Ex scrip share split & Tax-free ... No significant data.

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428	300	Brown (Jeff)	428	428	●
142	135	UK Paper	138	142	●
333	232	Unter Walker	322	332	●	71.9	3.6	11.8
335	270	VPI Gp	308	315	..	4.7	1.5	18.1
264	213	WCCS	251	257	+2	4.9	1.9	14.1

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180	132	Dances	170	180	+3	41	23	2
195	153	Dawson	165	175	..	40	23	2
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638	153	Dawson	165	175	..	40	23	2
640	153	Dawson	165					

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301	241	Ocean Transport	257	+5	1.1	3.2	13
401	426	Oil & Gas	415	-1	0.7	3.2	13
401	447	Pacifi. & S.W.	412	-11	7.3	7.3	13
301	376	Packaging (Walter)	337	-39	6.7	2.8	12
301	376	Pacific	337	-39	6.7	2.8	12
605	475	Transatlantic Scott	650	+70	15.1	1.8	94

SHOES, LEATHER							
100	65	Leather Sens	50	100	+1	1.3	14
273	125	Leather (Horsley)	125	0	42	11.6	7.2
273	125	Pitard Sens	183	187	-	8.1	4.4
273	125	Shoe & Footwr	242	247	-	14.7	8.0
360	233	Strong	270	285	+6	6.7	24

TEXTILES									
360	380	Alfred Tiedt	335	342	-5	12.6	3.7	16	8
280	275	Black (Lubin)	112	117	5	7.7	3.0	11	22
118	125	Blackman (A)	212	217	5	7.9	8.9	22	22
63	33	Botton	37	37	0				
280	280	B. Schneider	202	202	+0	10.3	6.1	20	20
88	86	Cash	71	74	3	2.2	3.0	28	28
384	396	Countess (a)	357	343	-14	16.0	4.0	10	10
214	206	Countess (a)	184	184	0	4.5	4.5	10	10
280	280	Courville (L)	184	186	+2	6.0	3.2	10	10
121	127	Dan	156	162	+6	9.9	4.0	10	10
230	230	Deamond	115	119	+4	3.7	3.2	32	32

[illegible]

TOBACCO									
490	350	BAT (ea)	448	452	+15	23.2	5.1		
130	128	Camel	125	140					
436	365	Redmonds 5 (ea)	432	465	+10	11.2	2.6		

● Ex dividend a Ex att b Forecast dividend c Incent payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend ar yield exclude a Price payment k Pre-merger figures Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip share split t Tax-free ... No significant data.

TECHNOLOGY

The bird man who found a high-technology role

PROFILE

By Ann Kent

If you want something to happen, then tell Robert Longstaffe it cannot be done. The effect is like pressing a start button.

Mr Longstaffe, 37, is probably the world's unlikely candidate for high technology. After spending five years at the bottom of various fields, watching birds for the Ministry of Agriculture, he quit to see if he could earn a living out of making reproductions of old-fashioned flutes, lutes and harps. He soon discovered, more or less by accident, that wooden toy-making was just as enjoyable and more cost-effective than the instruments.

His low-tech image could not have been more suitable. There he was with a handful of employees in a small workshop next to an orchard.

Their only neighbours in the isolated Oxfordshire village were next door's chickens. And then Mr Longstaffe shocked his rivals by plunging into new technology.

Technology is all very well for those who are mass-producing plastics but it can be a dirty word among craftsmen who are working in wood. "Once we started to grow, we had a choice between running a sweat shop - which isn't why I came into this business - or finding a mechanized process," he said.

Having experimented first with waterjet-cutting, he realized it was too limited in its application. He did, however,

like the perfect repeatability of the cutting action that was made possible because it was computer-controlled.

"So I wondered if we wouldn't do better with a laser," he said.

Everyone told him it was impossible. "It's been tried," said the furniture makers, "and it burns the wood."

The American toy-makers said: "People have spent millions of dollars researching this. It's a non-starter."

The kindly owner of an industrial laser allowed Mr Longstaffe to try out their equipment. When the smoke cleared, they all gazed gloomily at a small, very charred piece of wood.

But Mr Longstaffe was not ready to give up. After all, lasers were being used successfully and safely in medicine.

All that was needed was fine-tuning to improve the focusing, a power reduction and a damping-down of any burning effects.

Undeterred by the knowledge that this kind of research and development can and has run into millions, Mr Longstaffe hired time on a Ferranti laser and adapted it to his purposes.

He wanted to fulfil every puzzle-maker's dream - to make a cut so good perfect that you could not see the join,

to produce wooden puzzles that did not flake gently under their cling wrapping as they lay on the shelves.

But even more important is the type of cut that can be achieved by a computer-assisted laser. Corners are completely squared, rather than slightly rounded as with most machine-cutting. Perfect elliptical cuts - formerly achievable only by skilled hand-workers - are now no problem at all.

Mr Longstaffe started to play around with the laser last winter and, like his predecessors, found problems with sticky tar deposits - a by-product of burning - where the cuts had been made. But it

Horizons now broadened

has taken him only a few months to achieve results that satisfied him.

His process involves the laser remaining in a fixed position while the work to be cut is moved about under computer control by means of a numerically controlled table.

The problem of reducing the power while not slowing down the speed of cutting has been solved by pulsing the laser beam and by adjustments to the balance of the helium, hydrogen and sometimes argon generated in the bellows end of the device.

Seeing what the laser can do

- and the fact that he will soon be taking delivery of his own - has broadened his horizons considerably.

He now intends to run a specialist laser cutting service to all manufacturers working in wood.

"If anything, the laser cutting process for wood will have wider applications in the furniture industry than in the toy industry. It is far better than traditional routing for fretted work, and we are currently cutting 25mm oak with it," he said.

"We keep speaking to people in both the toy and furniture industry who tell us that what we are trying can't be done. And we leave them with samples of what the laser can do, so they can think it over for themselves."

Now Mr Longstaffe is chasing development money from the Department of Trade and Industry to finance research into speeding up the process. And he is discussing overseas licensing of the software programs that control both the laser and the numerically controlled table with the British Technology Group.

He acknowledges his tremendous luck in getting so far for so little money because of the interest and co-operation of research scientists.

His research and development costs have been only about £180,000 partly because he is a one-man band.



It's all done by lasers: Robert Longstaffe at his workshop

Can the network finally make it to a wider audience?

By Geof Wheelwright

Computer pundits have said that every year of the past three would be the year in which the personal computer network finally comes of age.

But there is reason to believe that in the second half of 1988 even the most hardened industry-watchers may be convinced that this is finally going to happen.

A network is simply a combination of specialized computer software and electronics that allow computers to be linked up to one another via a cable in such a way that they can share information, computer resources, printers and computer software.

Until recently, however, there have not been any widely accepted standards for the use of computer networks and that has greatly frustrated their development and acceptance by potential customers.

The greatest impediment to the use of these networks has been the operating system. Microsoft's MS-DOS, the system used on most PCs, was designed to be used on single computers used by single operators.

It was not designed for a large number of computer users to work together with one another over a network. Thus, those who have pioneered the work in computer networks have done so by providing their own "add-on" to MS-DOS.

Companies such as Novell have built a huge business around this method of over-

coming the limitations of MS-DOS and they are expected to play an important role in the future of personal computer networks.

But it is the OS/2 operating system designed for IBM's new PS/2 computers, announced last April but still to arrive, that could turn 1988 into the year of the network.

It will at last provide personal computer users with the kind of base level software needed to run a full-blown network, while at the same time taking advantage of the popularity of recent IBM networking hardware such as the Token Ring system.

Token Ring has already become so popular that other companies have successfully cloned it.

This form of imitation is what built the IBM PC into a standard and could well do the same for IBM's Token Ring system.

Robert Madge, founder of Madge Networks, recently became the first to announce an expansion board that will allow PS/2 computers to connect to its own or IBM's Token Ring network without the use of special IBM circuitry.

"The timing has been very fortunate for us - it helped us establish a user base when our products were in demand from day one," explains Mr Madge.

"People feel they are acting foolishly if they don't have at least two suppliers - and IBM may have trouble matching the demand for Token Ring."

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Founder returns to Atari

Nolan Bushnell, the man who began the video game craze with Pong in the early 1970s, intends to return to developing the games for the Atari.

Mr Bushnell, aged 45, founded Atari with \$250 in 1972 and sold it to Warner Communications in 1976 for \$28 million after his company established the video game as a significant part of American culture.

He said an agreement had been reached between Atari and his present company, Axlon, which he formed in 1983 to make electronic toys. Axlon will develop video games for Atari.

"We know the Atari system inside and out," Mr Bushnell said, "but the software we can do now almost makes it feel like a completely new system."

Riding the wave of a resurgence in video games, Atari claims a 20 per cent share of what it estimates was a \$1 billion market in 1987 and will be twice that in 1988.

The company estimates that the market leader, Nintendo, has a 70 per cent share.

But the machine that started it all, the Atari 2600, still has by far the largest installed base, at about 26 million.

Mr Bushnell said: "Probably half are in the closet."

He added: "My goal is to get half of those dusted off and back in play."

Atari has returned to profitability from heavy losses since Warner sold it to Jack Tramiel, a former Commodore International executive, four years ago.

Mr Bushnell said last week that looking at Atari made him feel his "child has grown up, gone through a rocky adolescence and become a responsible, mature adult".

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TECHNOLOGY

Top of the launches

Tomorrow sees the first flight for a British satellite launcher. Pearce Wright looks at what is at stake

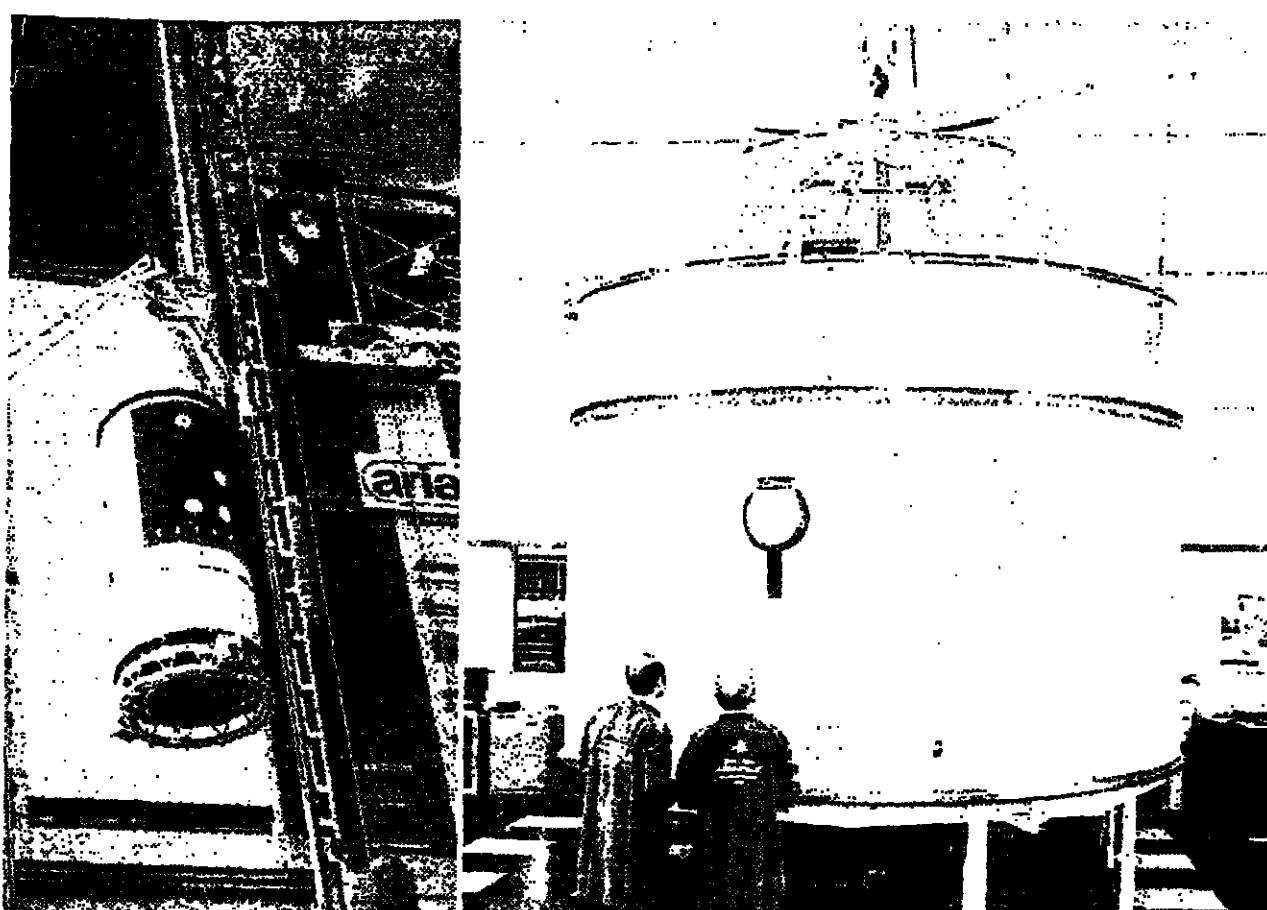
When the latest member of the European family of satellite launchers, Ariane IV, makes its debut tomorrow, it will also be the first flight for a device called Spelda, made by British Aerospace. The name is short for Structure Porteuse Externe de Lancement Double Ariane.

It is an innovation enabling Ariane IV to launch two or more spacecraft during the same mission.

The Spelda is a large cylindrical container with a conical shaped top. One satellite can sit on top of the conical section and a second one is placed inside the container. The two satellites are then installed in the nose cone of the Ariane rocket. Early in the flight, the nose fairing of Ariane IV is jettisoned and the upper satellite is released.

A little later, an explosive bolt separates the Spelda's upper and lower sections, leaving the second satellite free to be released into orbit. Dual launching is a big factor in cutting the costs of putting satellites into orbit with Ariane.

But Spelda's design has depended on developments in material technology. The device carries both the aerodynamic loads from Ariane IV's nose cone, as well as the inertial loads generated by the



Ariane IV, left, with nose fairing and Spelda integrated. Right: Spelda at British Aerospace's communications division

upper satellite during the launch.

But it has to be a lightweight structure. So the container consists of a sandwich, 29mm thick, of an aluminium honeycomb core bonded to several layers of carbon fibre-reinforced material with an outer layer of glass fibre.

But more is riding on the first launch of Ariane IV than the testing of the Spelda. The

vehicle is designed as Europe's workhorse of the world market for the launch of non-military satellites until the end of the century. So far, Ariane, the European Space Agency's industrial arm, has captured 50 per cent of this market.

But the Ariane IV launch comes at a time of rapidly increasing competition. The launch vehicle market is

emerging from the dramatic events of two years ago, when the US space shuttle exploded. After the Challenger disaster in January 1986, customers were grounded and desperate for launch vehicles.

Since the American expendable launch vehicle industry had stopped production, many customers turned to Ariane.

In the meantime the United

States has restarted manufacture of expendable launchers with renewed vigour. At present it has a large backlog of military satellites and payloads to be launched. But it will be turning its attention to the commercial market. The American shuttle will resume flights later this year, but it will not carry commercial satellites. The US government has voted it out of that business.

It's the background that makes all the difference

Digital Equipment's recent sales increase has meant opportunities for working with the company's equipment are higher than ever before.

"DEC sales people can make their targets and stay in bed for three days a week," claims Russell Clements, DEC recruitment consultant for Computer Futures. "Now it is seen as a sensible decision for companies and is up with IBM for credibility and respectability." Several recruitment agencies now deal only with DEC recruitment, and others have two or three people devoted to dealings in the DEC market-place.

But it is not just any DEC experience that is in demand. The recruitment agencies have seen a particular growth in demand for people with VAX Cobol or Basic, plus knowledge of fourth-generation languages (4GLs) and relational database skills such as Oracle and Ingres.

Good communication skills are also necessary for most jobs, and a sprinkling of

JOBSCENE

By Caroline Berman

business knowledge would not come amiss.

Mr Clements said the ideal combination is a graduate with either VAX Cobol, Basic or C, with a 4GL or a relational database. Knowledge of structured techniques is also a help. "If they have all that, they can choose between about six jobs," he said.

He added that 4GLs are considered by companies to be a portable skill—more so than traditional languages. "There's not much of a willingness to cross-train into DEC from other hardware," said Mr Clements. "But companies will cross-train from one 4GL to another."

The main demand for the DEC jobs is coming from the commercial area, as well as software houses and management consultancies that might use DEC machines for internal administration and modelling tools. DEC salaries

are lower than those for many IBM machines, but higher than those for PCs and other minicomputers.

DEC machines are also used extensively in the financial sector. Mr Clements said, however: "Although some banks are still recruiting, the financial market is definitely not so buoyant now. Only in the last month have we really been feeling the effects of the crash of last October. I believe it's because now we are into a new financial year and budgets have been reassessed."

Other areas of high demand for DEC skills are the defence, technical and scientific and engineering fields. However, people seem to be leaving areas such as these as the salaries are not quite as high as in the commercial sector.

There is a pay difference of £1,000-£1,500 pay between the scientific and commercial sectors, according to Sue Prescott, Oric's senior consultant. Programmers with two years' experience and the right personal skills can earn up to

£15,000 with Cobol. But in the scientific arena they would get £13,000-£14,000. It may be difficult to move out of defence as the technical skills are different from those in the commercial area. Fortran is often used in the scientific areas and Fortran programmers are two a penny, she said.

Bob Smith, Calabas's recruitment division manager, said it is harder to fill jobs in scientific and defence areas. "People don't want to work in defence," she said. "The pay is less in scientific areas at junior levels. You don't get the same package as in the City, where you get subsidised mortgages etc. The finance houses pay best, then large commercial companies, then software houses, then small companies and scientific companies."

There is also a kind of blue-chip credibility. He explained: "If people have worked for companies like Shell, Marks & Spencer, or Nabisco, they are much more popular with prospective employers."

Europeans say No to tape levy

Leaves-on blank audio and video tapes have been rejected by the Common Market Commission as a solution to home re-recording. Instead, the Commission urges industry last week to "get your act together" and design a technical device to make such copying impossible on the latest digital equipment.

Only France and West Germany impose a special tax on blank tape sales, to compensate artists for the assumed sales loss on pre-recorded material. A similar tax in Britain has been rejected by the Government, despite pressure from copyright protection groups. Lord Cockfield, the EEC Commissioner, wants to see a technical answer to the problem.

The Commission emphasized in a study paper that citizens and industry must be safeguarded as well as the legitimate rights of authors of artistic works. It is waiting for a response to this before tabling proposals for European governments to consider.

There aren't any secrets left to reveal any more

It is a cliché to say that the face of the computer industry has changed dramatically during the past five years—that is obvious to anyone who watches television or has walked down the local high street recently. But the changes in the ways computer companies conduct business and the effect they will ultimately have on computer users are far less obvious to the layman.

Traditionally, the computer industry conjures up images of companies engaged in a cut-throat struggle to leapfrog one another's technologies, and of new product launches that are closely guarded secrets, where the slightest leak could destroy the chances of success.

In reality, the co-operation and information exchange between companies today are higher than ever before.

Take Motorola's recent launch of a computer chip. If the image of the computer industry outlined above still applied, Motorola would have played its cards close to its chest, ensuring that when it announced the product it would not only catch its competitors by surprise but would also gain the maximum possible mileage from the launch.

This simply did not happen. Before the launch, some manufacturers announced their commitment to use the new chip—a product that did not officially exist. Indeed, preliminary details of the chip were published by Motorola as long ago as February.

This happened because nobody in the computer industry, except IBM and possibly DEC, is in a position to make a major product announcement without the prior knowledge that it will be supported by a broad range of influential and interested parties.

Motorola is not alone. Almost all computer companies, when introducing new hard-

ware products, are supported at launch by the software companies that will make their products useable. New product introductions, however, provide just one example of the extent to which companies now co-operate.

In both the United States and Europe committees composed of leading computer companies are working to produce standard operating



George Kersels, above, looks at unprecedented co-operation between competitors in technology

systems that their members will adopt. The formation of the Open Software Foundation last month, for example, sent shock waves throughout the computer industry. The new group, led by IBM and its "arch rival" Digital Equipment, is trying to thwart a bid by AT&T to control the Unix operating system. What will come of this remains to be seen. But never before have two such bitter enemies made such a public commitment to work together.

And, again in the US, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is at the heart of a consortium producing a standard man-machine interface that will make computer hardware an irrelevance.

Similarly, it is impossible to think of a significant manufac-

turer that has not signed a series of "strategic partnerships" or similarly named agreements with associate companies.

The reason for all this activity is that co-operation has replaced corporate clout as the name of the game. Put another way, it is increasingly attractive for companies to exploit the specialist expertise of their strategic partners, rather than to plough money, manpower and, most importantly, time into doing the work themselves.

Where is all this leading? Historically, standards in the computer and electronics industries have been driven by committees and organizations. The big change is that tomorrow's standards are being driven by the computer companies themselves, not by the standards institutions.

Of course, the single most important factor is what all this means to customers. Because of industry standards, the purchase decisions faced by potential buyers become less and less risky as time goes by.

Indeed, software standardization is reaching the point where hardware is almost irrelevant to the overall purchase decision.

Co-operation, however, may have even more far reaching effects. It ensures that products are brought to market as quickly as the industry, rather than individual manufacturers, can manage. And because companies know what their partners are doing, they can plan their products on future, rather than current, technology—which is something the computer industry of five years ago would never have believed possible.

The author is managing director of Tektronix UK, a company specializing in computer graphics and test and measurement equipment

Dawn of the personal video

By Matthew May

After the success of the personal stereo, Sony is to attempt the same for videos. Last week it announced the Video Walkman, a unit the size of a paperback book, though 3in thick, including a 3in colour television and a video cassette recorder based on the 8mm format.

No plans have been announced for a European or American launch but the

product will go on sale in Japan in August for 128,000 yen—about £550.

It weighs about 3lb with battery, and Sony cites the development of a single video chip as the reason for the weight and size reductions.

Despite the initial high price, Sony hopes it may catch on just like the original audio walkmans. "It can record late-night news programmes and other special programming, which can be viewed the

following morning while commuting," said Sony. As the Video Walkman uses the same 8mm tape as the video cameras known as camcorders, Sony says it can "make an excellent portable album for home-made videos".

The unit includes a programmable timer for one programme in the next 24 hours and a long-play feature, which lengthens the maximum recording time on a single tape to four hours.

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At last . . . the stamp they hope will really stay stuck

By Nick Nuttall

Postal scientists are claiming to have licked the technical problems that forced the hasty withdrawal of the world's first self-adhesive stamp.

In 1974 the American postal service thought it had liberated tongues from the tedious stamp-licking forever. But their Christmas issue, although initially popular among consumers, was an unmitigated disaster.

Not only did the stamp cost five times more to produce than a conventional one that

needs licking, but the historic launch left a bad taste in everyone's mouth when the specially developed glues were found to be eating through the paper.

However, the same team of researchers says the problems are now solved and the world's second self-adhesive stamp, which they believe will be successful, should be out by the end of the year.

The exact technical details are being kept under wraps while American postal executives negotiate contracts with

manufacturers and suppliers.

However, a spokesman for the postal service in Washington said: "New printing techniques mean the stamp should be no more costly than a normal one."

He also explained that scientists at their laboratories in Rockville, Maryland, have developed a glue that is less powerful but pressure-sensitive.

A spokeswoman for the Royal Mail said British postal researchers had themselves investigated just such a stamp from time to time but had found it too impractical, as the stamps kept sticking together.

However, although she indicated that British postal executives were not exactly eagerly expecting the invention, British researchers would certainly show interest in the world's second self-adhesive stamp when it finally makes its appearance.

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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

We are looking for accountants and auditors who are able to help us to respond to the increasing demands and challenges upon the Authority's Treasurer's Department. There is currently a great deal of development in the Wokingham area and we are looking for staff who will feel comfortable in an environment which is responding to change.

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

Post No T4
Salary: Up to £17,541 p.a. & £1,500 per annum Contract Hire Car Subsidy

A qualified Accountant (preferably CIPFA) is required in order to assist the developments in the Financial Controls Section. The duties of the post will depend upon the qualities of the postholder but will include the opportunity to be involved in one or more of the following activities:

- assisting with computer development, including the implementation of a new general ledger system,
- implementing the changes needed, to prepare for the extension of compulsory competition,
- reviewing the system of accounting for support services.

In addition the postholder will be expected to play a role in the day to day management of the section.

SENIOR ACCOUNTING OFFICER

Post No T107
Salary: Up to £13,173 p.a.

You'll  at the **WOKINGHAM** .. of Silicon Valley

A Part qualified Accountant or experienced Accounting Technician is required whose duties will include specific capital accounting responsibilities. The successful applicant will also play a central role in the general accountancy function. In particular it is anticipated that the postholder will enhance existing monitoring and reporting arrangements and make full use of micro-computer applications for this purpose.

SENIOR AUDIT ASSISTANT

Post No T9
Salary: Up to £12,075 p.a. & £900 per annum Contract Hire Car Subsidy

A Part Qualified Accountant or Technician with 1-2 years relevant experience is needed to provide support in the Internal Audit Section. A progressive approach to Audit is adopted by the Council which incorporates the use of new technology and modern audit practices. Duties of the post include operational and value for money audits, working in direction of other members of the Section and is considered an ideal career position. Benefits of the above posts include:

- Flexitime scheme
- New purpose-built civic offices, including a subsidised restaurant (to be completed in August)
- Life assurance and private medical insurance schemes
- Relocation expenses
- Generous mortgage subsidy or shared home ownership schemes
- Commuter allowance for anyone who prefers to travel rather than move home

For an informal discussion please telephone Wokingham (0734) 786833 and ask for Jeff Salzman, Principal Accountant on extn 426 or Roger Jones, Principal Auditor, extn 407. An application form and further job details are available from Rachel Sedler or Judy Cowan, Personnel Section, District Secretary's Department, Wokingham District Council, Council Offices, Trinity Court, Embsay Close, Wokingham, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG11 9AE. Telephone Wokingham (0734) 786833, extn 205 or 207, quoting relevant reference number T4, T107, T9. Closing date for applications is Monday 20th June 1988.

LEGAL & FINANCIAL

In touch with the Archers

Like every other crack investigative reporter I yearn to solve one of those intriguing puzzles of politics, crime, or literature which has captured the popular imagination.

Some may search for Kim Philby's Third (or Fourth or Fifth) Man. Others pursue the Mr Big's of the Underworld. But, in all modesty, I may claim to have taken on a much tougher assignment.

Inspired by my wife's daily dose of *The Archers* I set out to unmask the identity of the Birmingham firm of solicitors which now employs Mark Hebden, Ambridge's answer to LA Law.

Now just in case there are any of you too busy to have kept fully up-to-date with the everyday story of country (and now city) folk let me remind you that young Mark Hebden has recently quit the quill pens of Borehamston and gone to work for a souped-up firm of solicitors in Brum where it is all Computers and Company and Commercial.

So who has the pleasure of his services? Is it Evershed & Tomkinson, the firm named by the *Legal 500* as going "from strength-to-strength" in the West Midlands. Or is it Wragge & Co, founder member of the M5 Group? Or perhaps it was Needham & James who tantalised me with the prospect of a forthcoming announcement of major significance. Or maybe even Edge & Ellison, Hatwell Pritchett, the largest firm in town, whose

While Birmingham may not top the list of cities

in which everyone would choose to live and work,

Edward Fennell discovers

it is one of the most interesting and lucrative

places for those employed

in the legal profession



unlisted stock market work. And at the top of the pile Peat Marwick McLintock is expanding so fast that next year the firm will move into an enormous new office close to the Cathedral Square.

As it happens Birmingham is Peat's largest office outside London and the 35 partners are reckoned to be a bunch of young and dynamic go-getters. With a thriving management consultancy practice (with special expertise in advanced manufacturing technology) and 27 per cent of all publicly quoted companies in the Midlands Peats is the one to beat.

When it comes to legal transactions however, Peats has no hesitation in recommending local firms of solicitors. "Frankly we would rarely refer any of our clients to one of the big London firms," said Angela Skokoe the marketing manager. "Birmingham law firms are extremely good, they can do just as professional a job as anyone in London. In any case we prefer to deal with someone who is just around the corner."

A major beneficiary of Birmingham's current property boom is Evershed & Tomkinson where property lawyer Adrian Bland enthuses about the strength of Birmingham's cultural life and the new initiatives for the inner-city area. With a strong London office as well as a number of clients in the South East Evershed's can claim to have a significant presence in the capital. But it still

Major firms are starting to invest high stakes

senior partner John Wandle told me that he had increased the number of qualified staff by over 30 in the last 18 months.

To be honest I never discovered exactly who had Mark Hebden on their books. But by the end of the day my suspicions were strongly directed at Pinsent & Co, one of whose partners is an adviser to the Historic Homes Association (of which Grey Gables is, I am certain, a member) and which is also making a name for itself in the professional indemnity market (a subject upon which Mark Hebden is an expert).

Of course, generally speaking, Brummies don't have much time for fantasies of rural gentility. And they certainly won't let diplomatic considerations get in the way of their candour. Even sophisticated accountants are honest to a fault.

Peter Maxwell the senior partner of Coopers & Lybrand, for example, said that he was reluctant to load me down with one of his brochures because, like all brochures, it was "boring and mundane". Another accountant said that Birmingham still suffered from an endemic sense of malaise. But it was a solicitor, whose identity I must conceal to protect him from a lynch mob, who commented: "Whatever they do to Birmingham, it's never going to be a

great place to live. And anyone who says otherwise is barmy."

As it happens, quite a lot of people did say otherwise. The consensus view was that a lot of good companies in the West Midlands had survived the recession of the early 80s and had now slimmed down, toiled up with high-technology, and were ready to take on the world.

The bid for the Olympic Games may have been unsuccessful but it had raised Birmingham's profile significantly. And the opening in 1991 of the International Convention Centre would signal the start of a new era for the city.

Of course, central Birmingham still desperately needs an enormous facelift (seeing it in bright sunshine last week made the graffiti and the rubbish and the shoddy 60s buildings look even more depressing) but everyone assured me that a big clean-up was on its way.

In the meantime the major firms of solicitors and accountants are getting on with the business of making lots of money. Middle-ranking Stoy Hayward, for example, is carving out a nice niche dealing with privately-owned companies with a turnover of up to £50 million a year.

It has doubled its fee income in five years and has a strong reputation for its

New specialist fields are beginning to emerge

likes to think of itself as a national firm with a Birmingham base. No precise plans of expansion have been formed but "it is talking with lots of people all the time."

Needham & James meanwhile definitely has major plans. It was just unfortunate that spokesman John Pratt wouldn't divulge to me what they were! With 25 partners the firm is already big by Birmingham standards but from what Mr Pratt implied it sounded as if something pretty significant was in the offing.

The future of Wragge & Co seems to be perpetually bound up with the M5 but as managing partner Peter Wall assured me, "M5 is strong because it has leading firms in it rather than the other way round." Wragge's sees itself as a business which happens to be selling legal services. And in order to maintain its particular strengths it is currently developing a range of new specialisms. Intellectual property in relation to 1992 and the single European market is expected to be especially interesting.

So Birmingham is bubbling and no wonder young Mark Hebden wanted some of the action. After all, on what they pay at the BBC, it's about time he got himself a proper job.

ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF OFFICERS

The Police Authority for Northern Ireland invites applications for posts in the Royal Ulster Constabulary in the following ranks:

SENIOR ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE

ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE

Applicants for SENIOR ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE must be suitably qualified and experienced Assistant Chief Constables. The successful applicant will be responsible for managing a group of functions headed by Assistant Chief Constables or a civilian of analogous rank.

The salary is £34,059 per annum plus an RUC Allowance of £1,221. The usual allowances are also payable including a rent allowance up to a maximum of £3,807 (under review) and a flat rate car allowance.

Applicants for ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE must be suitably qualified police officers who have at least 5 years' total service in the Superintendent ranks at 27 May 1988.

The salary is £30,960 per annum plus an RUC Allowance of £1,221. The usual allowances are also payable including a rent allowance up to a maximum of £3,807 (under review) and a flat rate car allowance.

The RUC is the second largest police force in the United Kingdom and provides unique policing challenges. It has a complement of 8,250 and is supported by an RUC Reserve whose present strength is about 4,700 including 3,000 who are full-time.

The appointments will be subject to satisfactory medical examinations and to the approval of the Secretary of State. They are conditioned by the Police Acts and Regulations for the time being in force, and to such other conditions of service as may from time to time be adopted by the Authority.

The Selection Boards are likely to be held late July/early August 1988 and it may be decided to interview only those applicants who are considered to be best qualified. The Selection Boards may draw up a reserve list of successful applicants which would apply for a six month period from the date of the Board.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is 16 June 1988. Further details and application forms, which may be requested by telephone, are obtainable from:-

The Secretary
Police Authority for Northern Ireland
5th Floor, River House
48 High Street
Belfast BT1 2DR
Tel. No: Belfast 230111 Exts. 238/301.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

LET US BE YOUR DIRECT CONTACT TO A HOME AWAY FROM HOME IN TAMPA, FLORIDA

There is no need to use a professional recruiter to take advantage of outstanding nursing opportunities in the United States.

If you are ready to communicate directly with the people with whom you will be working and take advantage of a state-of-the-art medical centre that will support your move both financially and emotionally... investigate your potential at the Tampa General Hospital. We have a specially prepared transition programme geared to you, the English Nurse.

We will assist in both integrating yourself to the hospital and the community while taking care of your H-1 visa. You will also enjoy liberal benefits and relocation assistance.

We are located on Florida's Gulf Coast, which offers outstanding recreational opportunities year round. We care... and that is the difference.

For immediate consideration or more information contact us directly:

Nurse Recruitment
THE TAMPA GENERAL HOSPITAL
(813) 251-7816
Davis Islands, PO Box 1289
Tampa, Florida 33601
U.S.A.

ASA LAW

PERMANENT APPOINTMENTS FOR SOLICITORS

We offer a highly personalised and professional service to solicitors and legal executives seeking permanent appointments in the legal field throughout London and the provinces.

If you are currently contemplating a career move call Sandra Karmen on 226 4462 or write with your full CV to:-

ASA LAW
ASA HOUSE, 8 Ludgate Square, London EC4M 7AS

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Details (0532) 445247

VOLUNTEER MISSIONARY MOVEMENT

Christian doctors, RGN nurses, midwives, tutors, pharmacists, lab. technicians, dispensary staff, etc. needed for primary health care projects and rural hospitals in Africa and Papua New Guinea.

Two year volunteer contract, preparation course, return air fare provided.

Details from: VMM, Stanley Lane, 100054, London Colney, St Albans, Herts AL2 1AR

CAMPAIGNS OFFICER (EEC)

The World Development Movement

not a vacancy for a Campaigns Officer to work on the EEC's role in the world. The EEC's main policy, which is to develop the world's poorest countries, is supported by the World Development Movement. The successful applicant will be responsible for the work of the voluntary campaign group on the EEC's role in the world. Salary scale £10,000 - £15,000 p.a. plus expenses. Job description and application form available from: June 25, 1988, to June 28, 1988, at: World Development Movement, 100, Great Portland Street, London W1M 6LQ. Tel: 01-631 2872.

LOOK AFTER YOUR HEART! CAMPAIGN

The world's largest Heart Disease Prevention campaign, with a budget of £3.7 M in 1988-89, is jointly funded by the DHSS and the Health Education Authority and involves the use of publicity action in the workplace, support for local communities and many other activities.

PROGRAMME MANAGER

Salary negotiable

We seek an energetic leader to manage a small core team, co-ordinating the activities of a broadly based group of Officers based in all HEA's Divisions. This extremely busy, but interesting role, requires you to be well educated, with over ten years' successful experience in health, education, research, industry or other relevant fields - preferably in a multi-disciplinary setting.

PROGRAMME OFFICER

£13,820 - £16,518 (depending on experience)

Required from September, to work with a small team on the workplace initiative of the LAYH! Campaign and, with others, develop and sustain strategies to ensure the successful recruitment of employers to the Campaign.

This challenging position within an expanding area, requires energy and enthusiasm, a Graduate or Postgraduate qualification, together with several years' experience in a discipline relevant to health education/workplace. Further details and application forms for both posts from the Personnel Department, Health Education Authority, 78 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1AE. Tel: 01-631 0930.

Closing date: 23rd June 1988. The Authority is committed to becoming a full Equal Opportunities Employer.



HEALTH EDUCATION AUTHORITY

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
RESEARCH ASSISTANT
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

Applications are invited for a research assistantship by a grant from the SERC under the Initiative in Complex Stochastic Systems, and tenable for a period of up to three years, commencing October 1988, or as soon as possible thereafter. The appointee will work on problems related to the methodology and application of statistical techniques in image processing. Applications, accompanied by a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, should be sent to: Professor D.M. Titterton, Department of Statistics, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, by 24 June, 1988.

Salary will be on the 1A (postdoctoral) or 1B scale (+ USS benefits) with starting salary according to age and experience.

Animal Charity

Socks Fund-raising Officer based at their Headquarters near Watford, to cover the Watford and Greater London areas. Job involves organising fund-raising events, setting up and organising charity shops, collecting jumble, giving talks and attending agricultural shows etc. A certain amount of heavy work involved. Would suit older men having taken early retirement, who seek a varied and interesting post. Salary £9,000.

Apply with brief career details to:

General Secretary,
Animal Welfare Trust,
Tyler Way,
Watford by-pass,
Watford,
Herts WD2 8EQ.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Mathematics (applied mathematics), tenable from 1st October, 1988, or as soon as possible thereafter. The preferred subject area for this appointment is theoretical solid or fluid mechanics or a related area of differential equations or nonlinear systems, but other areas of applied mathematics may be considered. Applicants should have a strong research record. The successful candidate will be expected to make a substantial contribution to the research and teaching of the applied mathematics group within the Department.

Salary will be within the range £9,260 - £19,310 per annum on the Lecturers' scale, with placement according to age, qualifications and experience.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Academic Personnel Office, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QQ, where applications (3 copies), giving the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged on or before 12th July, 1988.

In reply please quote Ref. No. 6226E

HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

Up to £23,350

THE JOB

arises from a restructuring of the Council's management and the creation of an Administration Department with four divisions. We are now looking for someone to be responsible to the Director of Administration for the management of the Legal Division of over 30 staff and to act as the Council's solicitor.

THE PERSON

should be a solicitor with substantial local government background and the ability to manage a busy legal office.

BENEFITS

- a contract hire car or interest free car loan
- lump sum relocation allowance of £4000
- mortgage assistance scheme
- free private health insurance
- paid overtime in approved cases
- flexible working hours

Further details can be obtained by telephoning our 24 hour answering service on Basingstoke (0256) 479443, quoting reference T/L001 at the start of your call. Applications in your own style with the names and addresses of two referees should be submitted to the Head of Personnel Services, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Civil Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 2AJ by Friday 17 June.

BASINGSTOKE & DEANE borough council

The Royal Marsden Hospital
Specialist Health Authority
London and Surrey
OUT PATIENT MANAGER

Scale 12, salary rising to £18,518 p.a. (very award pending)

This busy postgraduate teaching hospital, specialising in the care and treatment of patients with cancer, is seeking to recruit an experienced manager for this interesting and challenging post in the out patient service.

This comprises the out patient clinic areas which are attended by over 100,000 out patients per year. Medical secretariat and medical records functions on both sites of the hospital.

The post carries responsibility for 160 staff from nursing and other disciplines, with a budget of approximately £1.25m.

Strong leadership and communication skills, together with an initiative approach, will be required to assist the Authority in providing a cost-effective, caring service for patients. The post provides an opportunity to gain disciplinary unit.

Informal view may be arranged by contacting Ann Cappel, Out Patient Manager on 01-352 6171 ext. 2112.

Job description and application form may be acquired from the Personnel Department, The Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3 6JJ, or tel. as above ext. 2144. Closing date: 22nd June 1988.

Continued on next page

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

EXPERIENCED ADMINISTRATOR

KENSINGTON: SALARY AROUND £19,000

An old-established charity which runs thirteen Homes in England - some Residential Care Homes, some Nursing Homes, some mixed - is looking for a **HOMES SECRETARY** to take charge, under the General Secretary, of all aspects of the running of the Homes.

The post will be vacant in October and is suitable for a person mature in age and outlook, with previous administrative experience in a senior post, and with a large measure of common-sense.

The Homes Secretary is responsible, under the policy control of the appropriate Committees, and with the support of a small staff, for all matters connected with the Homes, including personnel, admissions, fees, maintenance of building and equipment and budgetary control. He is thus both a line manager and a policy adviser. An ability to draft lucid policy papers is an important requirement.

Attractive pension scheme available. The post carries free membership of BUPA and there is a generous leave allowance. Some travel to the Homes is involved.

Applicants should write by 17 June, with a full C.V., to Miss Sue Rigby at the address below. Those selected for interview will be asked to appear before a Selection Board.

Distressed Gentlefolk's
Aid Association
Vicarage Gate House
Vicarage Gate
Kensington
London W8 4AQ
(01-229-9341)

DGAA

Oxfordshire County Council

CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER

(£34,263 - £37,692)

The County Council is seeking a successor to Tim Brighouse who will leave in the new year to take up an academic appointment at Keele University.

There has been a recent restructuring of the management of the Department into five divisions but with the professional and administrative staff centred in Oxford. This restructuring will provide the means of ensuring that the major changes facing the Education service can be successfully carried through and that resources are deployed effectively. The new Chief Education Officer will come to the Department at a crucial point in its development and will have ample opportunity to exercise positive management and leadership.

Candidates will need to be suitably qualified and to have a good understanding and experience of the management of a large organisation, with a background in educational administration being desirable but not essential.

Application forms and job details from the County Personnel Officer, Oxfordshire County Council, County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND, telephone (0865) 815465.

Closing date: 27th June 1988.

WORKPLACE NURSERY AVAILABLE IN OXFORD
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Waverley Manor

HEAD OF HOME

Salary: Circa £15K per annum

This modern purpose-built Home for elderly people in Hendon has 43 permanent places and 25 short-stay places.

It serves the Jewish community and a high level of local voluntary support. We are looking for someone with proven management experience in the care of the elderly people, preferably with both social service and/or nursing qualifications.

We offer regular professional supervision, management support and opportunities for training.

For informal discussion, telephone Janet McLellan, on 01-802 9281.

For job description and application form, write to: The Chairman, Waverley Manor, c/o 221 Golders Green Road, London NW11 5DW.

Closing date: June 17, 1988.

Formal interview: June 29, 1988.

Chief Executive

£60,000 per annum

We are looking for a senior manager who has a proven record of achievement in a large organisation, and experience in the public sector, to take up this appointment on the retirement of David Macklin on 30 September 1988.

The post will be offered on a five year contract to someone with the capacity to think laterally and lead the changes required to the culture, organisation and management of performance of an Authority with a turnover of £450M, and a staff of 33,000.

Further details and application forms from Mr C. H. Schofield, County Manpower Services Officer, Devon County Council, County Hall, Exeter EX2 4QU (or telephone Exeter (0392) 273266).

Closing date 17 June 1988.

DEVON

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

PERSONAL

Continued from page 19

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE PARISH OF ST. MARK'S CHURCH, LONDON. NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. The Annual General Meeting of the Parish of St. Mark's Church, London, will be held on the 20th June 1988 at 8.00 p.m. in the Church. The business to be dealt with at the meeting is as follows: 1. To receive and adopt the accounts for the year ended 31st March 1988. 2. To elect members of the Church Council for the year 1988-89. 3. To elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Church Council. 4. To elect a Secretary of the Church Council. 5. To elect a Treasurer of the Church Council. 6. To elect a Clerk of the Church Council. 7. To elect a Lay Reader. 8. To elect a Minister of the Gospel. 9. To elect a Minister of Music. 10. To elect a Minister of Prayer. 11. To elect a Minister of the Word. 12. To elect a Minister of the Sacraments. 13. To elect a Minister of the Holy Eucharist. 14. To elect a Minister of the Holy Communion. 15. To elect a Minister of the Holy Baptism. 16. To elect a Minister of the Holy Anointing of the Sick. 17. To elect a Minister of the Holy Unction. 18. To elect a Minister of the Holy Viaticum. 19. To elect a Minister of the Holy Viaticum. 20. To elect a Minister of the Holy Viaticum.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

WANTED: Housekeeper for cleaning lady - London. Married person, comfortable with work, good references, good cooking, good cleaning, good ironing, good sewing, good mending, good washing, good drying, good hanging, good putting away, good tidying, good organising, good planning, good scheduling, good prioritising, good delegating, good supervising, good managing, good leading, good motivating, good inspiring, good encouraging, good supporting, good coaching, good mentoring, good advising, good counselling, good consulting, good collaborating, good cooperating, good communicating, good listening, good understanding, good empathy, good sympathy, good compassion, good kindness, good generosity, good helpfulness, good willingness, good flexibility, good adaptability, good resilience, good perseverance, good determination, good commitment, good loyalty, good integrity, good honesty, good truthfulness, good openness, good transparency, good vulnerability, good authenticity, good genuineness, good sincerity, good straightforwardness, good directness, good clarity, good simplicity, good ease, good grace, good poise, good composure, good calmness, good serenity, good peace, good harmony, good balance, good equilibrium, good stability, good steadiness, good firmness, good resolve, good fortitude, good endurance, good stamina, good energy, good vitality, good enthusiasm, good passion, good zeal, good fervour, good ardour, good ardency, good eagerness, good readiness, good promptness, good swiftness, good speed, good quickness, good alacrity, good alertness, good attentiveness, good observance, good vigilance, good watchfulness, good circumspection, good discretion, good prudence, good wisdom, good insight, good understanding, good knowledge, good intelligence, good intellect, good reasoning, good logic, good analysis, good synthesis, good evaluation, good judgement, good decision-making, good problem-solving, good conflict-resolution, good negotiation, good mediation, good arbitration, good conciliation, good compromise, good accommodation, good concession, good surrender, good submission, good obedience, good compliance, good cooperation, good collaboration, good teamwork, good partnership, good alliance, good coalition, good confederation, good federation, good union, good amalgamation, good merger, good acquisition, good takeover, good purchase, good sale, good disposal, good transfer, good conveyance, good assignment, good delegation, good entrustment, good commitment, good dedication, good devotion, good consecration, good dedication, good devotion, good consecration, good dedication, good devotion, good consecration.

ALL BOX NO. REPLY SHOULD BE SENT TO: BOX NO. 484, P.O. BOX 484, VIRGINIA STREET, WAPPING, LONDON, E1 9QD.

MATRON

The above post will be vacant at the beginning of August in a 22 bed Nursing Home in Finchley. Applications are invited from suitably qualified RGNs. Apply with full CV to the Director, Finchley Way, London N3. Tel: 01-349 3426.

PRACTICE SRN

Interesting and varied job in Sloane Street Polyclinic, starting mid-August 1988. Salary negotiable. 01-730 5119

Northumberland County Council

ARCHITECT (2 POSTS)

(£12,432 - £14,625 p.a.)

Why not improve the quality of your life and work in the beautiful, dramatic, rural surroundings of Northumberland?

The new offices in Morpeth are only 20 minutes by car from the exciting Metro Centre and the regional centre of Newcastle upon Tyne, but still only a 3 hour journey from London.

We are looking for enthusiastic and able young Architects to augment the talent of the Development division.

The range of work is wide and varied, but does not include housing. A creative approach to your work is essential to help the Department meet the Council's demands in the design and also in the architectural aspects of a property management service.

The minimum starting salary for this challenging role will be £12,804 p.a. for a fully qualified Architect.

For an informal discussion contact Keith Lake, Principal Assistant Director on (0670) 514343 Ext 3902.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT/TECHNICIAN (2 POSTS)

Up to £13,173 p.a. inclusive & appropriate user car allowance

To work as members of an architectural group in the preparation of working drawings, site surveys, presentation drawings and schedules and the running of individual contracts.

You must have a sound knowledge of building construction, and contemporary standards and regulations as they affect building construction. You should possess HNC in Building Studies or be eligible for full membership of the British Institute of Architectural Technicians and also have min five years relevant experience.

Further details regarding car allowances, removal expenses, pension schemes and application forms from Property Services Department, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF.

Tel Morpeth (0670) 514343 Ext 3981. Closing date 24 June 1988.

BRACKNELL FOREST BOROUGH COUNCIL

SENIOR ACCOUNTANCY ASSISTANT

Salary up to £16,000

Bracknell Forest Borough Council is a progressive and forward looking authority situated in the south east of Berkshire. It is currently investing heavily to expand its range of Recreational and Environmental Services within the area. An exciting Leisure Pool complex costing £5.5m is to be opened early in 1989.

Following a number of promotions this vacancy has arisen so we are looking for a Senior Accounting Technician or similarly qualified person to join a friendly and efficient accountancy team in the Treasurer's department.

This post offers an opportunity to widen the experience and to participate in all aspects of Local Government work with particular emphasis on Recreation and Housing services.

The starting salary is dependent upon experience, qualifications and ability.

The person appointed can expect to receive every possible assistance with housing including key worker housing accommodation, equity sharing mortgage assistance up to £40,000, and a flexible relocation financial package worth up to £5,000. The Council also offer payment of professional subscriptions, merit award scheme, generous holidays and flexible working hours.

For an informal discussion about the vacancy ring Peter Bailey on Bracknell (0344 424642 extension 244 or Chris Herbert on extension 205 or for more information and an application form telephone Kim Stevens on extension 232 or write to the Personnel Section, Bracknell Forest Borough Council, Easthampstead House, Town Square, Bracknell, Berks, RG12 1AQ.

Closing Date for applications: 20 June 1988

ISIS POLITICAL LIAISON OFFICER

The ISIS Association - the leading campaigning body for independent schools - wishes to recruit a Liaison Officer to boost membership and strengthen links with Parliament, the political parties and independent school action groups.

Candidates must be committed, politically aware and persuasive.

Full details from: Administrator, ISIS, 56 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AG.

Closing date: 4th July 1988

Independent Schools Information Service

HALLAM MEDICAL CENTRE

R.G.N. required by private out-patient unit.

Work involves all aspects of infertility including an In Vitro Fertilisation programme. Full training will be given in all aspects of this speciality. Ability to work in a team and enthusiasm are of paramount importance.

Starting salary commensurate with experience. BUPA and Pension scheme after 6 months service.

Please ring 01 631 1583 or write to the Hallam Medical Centre, 77 Hallam Street, London W1N 5LR for details.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND CRESCENT HISTORY LECTURESHIP

Applicants are invited for the post of Lecturer in the Department. Preference may be given to candidates with special interests in the area of Practical Theology and Christian Ethics.

Salary will be within the range of £9,260-£19,310 p.a. with placement according to age, qualifications and experience.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Academic Personnel Office, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QQ, where applications (8 copies), giving the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged on or before 24th June 1988.

In reply please quote Ref. No. 6221E.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

CITY OFFICE EC4 PRIVATE PRACTICE SEPTEMBER QUALIFIERS 1988

We are acting on behalf of firms throughout Central London currently recruiting solicitors due to be admitted in the Autumn. We welcome applications from articled clerks who wish to discuss opportunities now becoming available in firms of varying sizes and within different specialisations.

We can assure total confidentiality and professional objective advice.

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Law Report June 7 1988

Council can make rating allowance to itself

Regina v Nottingham City Council, Ex parte Nottinghamshire County Council
Regina v Mansfield District Council, Ex parte Same

Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Lord Justice Bingham and Lord Justice Taylor
 [Judgment May 26]

Where a rating authority made a resolution under section 55 of the General Rate Act 1967 directing that owners of certain classes of property in their area should be rated instead of the occupiers, the rating authority could lawfully make an allowance to itself, as owner of such property, within the terms of the section; and such allowance was properly to be deducted in calculating the product of a penny rate under the Rate Producers Rules (SI 1981 No 327).

Before making such a resolution, the rating authority was obliged to be reasonably satisfied that the section 55 resolution offered a reasonable prospect of significantly improved efficiency and economy in collecting the rates.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments when it dismissed the appeals of Nottingham City Council and Mansfield District Council, both rating authorities within the county of the respondent, Nottinghamshire County Council, from the decision of Mr Justice McCullough on Feb-

ruary 8, 1988, when he quashed the section 55 resolutions of the rating authorities passed on January 19, 1988, and July 27, 1987, respectively.

Mr Jeremy Sullivan, QC and Mr David Mole for Nottingham City Council; Mr Jeremy Sullivan, QC and Mr Harry Sales for Mansfield District Council; Mr Graham Machin for Nottinghamshire County Council.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM said that a county council issued precepts to rating authorities within the county requiring those authorities to levy a rate for the county council's benefit in addition to or as part of the rating authority's own rate.

The rating authorities were obliged by statute to inform the county council by February 1 in each year the estimated product of a penny rate in their areas so that the county council could fix the sum in the pound for which it was to be issued.

Thus, the county council's product of a penny rate in the rating authority districts of a county was the higher the sum in the pound for which the county council's precept had to be issued to raise the sum required for its own expenditure.

Second, if the product of a penny rate in any one rating authority district could be in any way reduced the effect was to throw an increased burden on ratepayers in other rating authority districts.

Section 55 represented a departure from the cardinal rule of rating that rates were levied on the occupier of a rateable hereditament, and a resolution made under it was a unilateral decision of the rating authority; such resolutions were made in the case of hereditaments having a relatively low rateable value.

The 1967 Act was a consolidating Act, and the correct approach in construing such a statute was defined in *Inland Revenue Commissioners v Janner* ([1975] 1 WLR 1701, 1711, 1715).

His Lordship said that the words "all hereditaments" in section 55 were ambiguous, so that help in clarification was to be found in section 11(1) of the Rating and Valuation Act 1925, the lineal ancestor of the 1967 Act.

It was clear from the 1925 Act that a rating authority might become entitled to an allowance in respect of hereditaments owned by it, and the repeal of part of section 11(1) was in terms which implicitly recognized that rating authorities could receive allowances in respect of their tenanted hereditaments. Such an indication was conclusive in the rating authorities' favour.

Having considered the 1967 Act and the 1981 Rules made under it, his Lordship concluded that paragraph 4 of the Rules, relating to the cost of

collection, was entirely apt to cover the total cost of allowances made under section 55 (including the administrative cost of handling them) less the estimated cost to the rating authority of collecting the rates.

In reaching the conclusion that the rating authorities rightly passed their resolutions in the belief that the allowances were deductible, his Lordship differed with the conclusion of Mr Justice McCullough who had quashed their decisions on the basis that they had misunderstood the law.

But there was the question whether, on the evidence, the rating authorities had acted lawfully in passing the section 55 resolutions: it was clear from the report of the city treasurer to the policy and resources committee of Nottingham City Council that it was not thought necessary to identify any gain in efficiency or economy in any way, because the resolution was not directed to those ends but to reducing the penny rate product so as (a) to reduce the rate burden on city ratepayers (with a consequent increase for county ratepayers outside the city) and (b) to obtain additional rate support grant. The same was true in the Mansfield case.

As the judge had found both sides accepted that the purpose of section 55 was directed to financial economy in the collection of rates; his Lordship

believed efficiency should be added to that.

Since the section 55 power was given to rating authorities to help them in collecting the rates, it could not be accepted that it was a power exercisable for ends entirely unrelated to the collection of the rates, as where, as in the instant cases, it would yield a minimal gain of efficiency and involve losses on collection out of all proportion to any conceivable saving.

Thus, unless a rating authority was reasonably of opinion that a section 55 resolution offered a reasonable prospect of significantly improved efficiency and economy in collecting the rates, it was not entitled in law to make the resolution.

If for whatever reason a resolution were likely to lead to a loss of rate support grant or (through the county precept) to an increased rate burden, it would be quite unrealistic to suggest that that matter should not be considered.

Allow for consideration were beneficial side effects of the resolution. Such matters only fell to be considered where a rating authority properly formed its opinion that that was not done, and on the facts could not be said to have been formed by either of the rating authorities.

Solicitors: Mr M. Wakely, Nottingham; Mr L. Lacey, Mansfield; Mr A. Sandford, West Bridgford.

Whether and when to give majority ruling

Regina v Thornton and Others
 Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Mr Justice Gathhouse and Mr Justice Fitt
 [Reasons May 26]

Once a jury had deliberated for two hours the question whether to and when to give a majority direction was entirely one for the judge's discretion under section 17(4) of the Juries Act 1974.

What verdicts had already been given, the order in which the jury were apparently considering the counts, whether, if it was known, they had considered the case against an individual defendant, whether the relevant matters which the judge should take into account in arriving at his decision.

However, there could be no doubt that allowing the jury to deliberate for a total of 5½ hours before giving a majority direction was in strict accordance with section 17(4).

The Court of Appeal so stated when giving reasons for dismissing on May 24 the appeals of John William Thornton and John Derek Stead against their convictions on April 3, 1987 at the Central Criminal Court (Judge Underhill, QC and a jury) of sexual offences against

boys and drug offences. Thornton's total sentence of eight years' imprisonment was reduced on appeal to 6½ years and Stead's total of five years was reduced to 4½.

Mr Peter Caton, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals for Thornton; Mr James Cartwright, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for Stead; Mr John Bevan for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that it was submitted on behalf of the appellant who had been arraigned with nine other men, that section 17(4) made it clear that Parliament intended juries to have at least two hours for consideration of the issues and therefore to an effective presentation of them to the jury. It will no doubt lead to a simple system of pleading in criminal cases. This is a limited modification of the right of silence in the interests of comprehension, under strictly controlled circumstances with the accused legally represented and fully acquainted with the prosecution case.

We see no reason why an

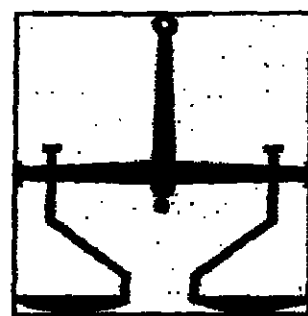
accused in these circumstances should not be required to state in simple terms what his defence is. This is a different situation from that of a person under police interrogation. There are strong arguments in favour of retaining the right of silence in the police station, when a person may have only a fragmentary picture of what is alleged.

If a simple system of defence disclosure is brought into operation, it will take much of the heat out of the debate over the right of silence and will put an end to the "ambush" defence - when the accused suddenly springs a new defence on the prosecution at trial.

Modern technology affords revolutionary opportunities in investigation and trial procedures. All criminal trials have felt the impact of tape-recorded interviews. They have prevented endless time-wasting and sterile disputes as to what was said in interrogation. The video camera opens up further possibilities of filming witnesses' statements.

This has been much discussed in relation to child abuse cases. Proposals have been put forward to use the video film in court. One proposal says that the child could be questioned by both sides

Efficiency is good, justice is better



LEGAL BRIEF

In the light of attacks

on the jury system,

David Cocks, QC,

Chairman of the

Criminal Bar

Association, looks at

ways to improve

criminal justice

accused in these circumstances should not be required to state in simple terms what his defence is. This is a different situation from that of a person under police interrogation. There are strong arguments in favour of retaining the right of silence in the police station, when a person may have only a fragmentary picture of what is alleged.

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This has been much discussed in relation to child abuse cases. Proposals have been put forward to use the video film in court. One proposal says that the child could be questioned by both sides

before trial and the ensuing film put before the jury as evidence, without the child attending as a witness.

The temptations of adopting this course on humane grounds must always be rejected in the interests of allowing cross-examination of child witnesses at the trial itself. In a difficult and dangerous branch of the law, this must be retained as a safeguard for the accused. The effects for the child can be mitigated (giving evidence by video link to the court from an adjoining room), but they cannot be totally dispensed with.

Much evidence in fraud and associated cases is long, tedious and difficult to relate to issues. The laborious oral tradition of the criminal trial will be much modified by information technology. It will be possible to compress and demonstrate masses of evidence in more manageable fashion. There will be more preparatory work and pre-trial procedures. The role of the judge will be more directive and interventionist.

A successful jury system requires that public confidence is maintained. The jury 25 years ago was "predominantly male, middle-aged and middle class" in Lord Devlin's phrase. There is no such consensus now. What we should have in its place is a genuine system of random selection.

We have found that the system of selection of jurors for the various crown courts is an arcane area of knowledge, not widely known or understood. And it is completely isolated from the world of information technology which the unsuspecting layman might have thought was linked with the concept "random".

In 1913, Lord Mersey's committee on the jury recommended a uniform and mechanical selection process; 75 years later it has become relatively uniform but is untouched by mechanization. Efficient random selection is even more important now since the accused's right to any say in the make-up of his jury is going with the abolition of peremptory challenge, while the Crown's right to vet potential jurors is retained in full. If the jury's face has changed, it must be the acceptable face of criminal justice.

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Failure to give reasons for discretionary decision not unfair in absence of fraud

Regina v Secretary of State for Home Office, Ex parte Harrison

Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Mr Justice Farquharson
 [Judgment May 20]

The failure by the secretary of state to give reasons for his decision to refuse an application for a term of imprisonment served prior to the question of a conviction was not unfair unless he acted with fraud or bias.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in dismissing an application for judicial review by Joseph Harrison against the refusal of the secretary of state to make an ex gratia payment for a one-year term of imprisonment he spent prior to his conviction being quashed by the Court of Appeal.

Mr Peter Martin for Mr Harrison; Mr John Laws for the secretary of state.

MR FARQUHARSON said Mr Harrison was successful in his appeal against conviction for fraud contrary to the common law. He wrote to the

secretary of state asking for compensation for the term he had spent.

In arriving at his decision the secretary of state applied a policy document which was not public which set out the criteria on which he operated. The criteria for refusing an application included, *inter alia*, the possibility of an applicant's guilt despite his acquittal.

That consideration was not mentioned in a statement in the House of Commons on November 8, 1985 by the secretary of state in which he set out the basis on which he considered such claims.

If that fact had been made public it would mean there would be reason to suspect that the Home Secretary thought an applicant for a payment was still guilty despite his acquittal.

The answer to the question whether the policy could be challenged as unreasonable or unfair depended on the nature of the decision. This was a decision reached not within the framework of a statute but was an administrative act vested in the secretary of state.

The very nature of such a payment presupposed that there

was no obligation to make it. Unless the secretary of state acted with fraud or bias, he could establish his own rules for the granting of such a payment.

If the applicant was right in his contention, the secretary of state would be under a duty to ensure the applicant had an opportunity to put forward arguments to support his innocence. That would open the door to a very different debate and to some extent would amount to a retrial.

The nature of the confidential type of decision militated against that revelation. There were no grounds for arguing that the secretary of state's decision to keep these criteria confidential was unfair.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH, concurring, said it was unfortunate that as a result of this case the practice would no doubt be made public. The consideration by the secretary of state of the possibility of an applicant's innocence or guilt was very sensitive and it was therefore not the practice to refer publicly to it.

Solicitors: David Lee & Co., Treasury Solicitor.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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We have been instructed by one of the major practices in Bristol to recruit able and ambitious lawyers for both their Commercial Property and Litigation departments. The Partners are flexible and objective in their analysis of candidates and these positions are not being kept for the sole reserve of lawyers who have been trained in the City. Training will be provided and the salaries are first class.

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We have a reputation as the market leader for the recruitment of Taxation Specialists in the United Kingdom. Over the past years we have witnessed a marked increase in the demand for Taxation Lawyers in private practice, commerce and industry and the accountancy profession. We have a number of interesting vacancies on our books, ranging from newly qualified to partnership level, and an informed discussion with one of our consultants could well prove to be worth your while.

For further details on these and other vacancies in London and the Provinces please contact ANNA PONTON or CARL BAFFY on 01-831-2288 (days) or 01-585-3729/01-350-0650 (eves and weekends) or write with full C.V. to

Gabriel Duffy Consultancy

31 SOUTHAMPTON ROW LONDON • WC1B 5HJ

TUCK & MANN
EPSOM
Young Solicitor

We are a flourishing practice with four offices in London and Surrey, and we are committed to continued expansion whilst maintaining a reputation for the provision of excellent legal advice to our clients, some of whom are based overseas. A new appointment has arisen for a solicitor to assist with a stimulating and absorbing range of non-contentious work with an emphasis on property matters. There is considerable scope to develop a chosen specialisation and to influence the development of an already highly successful practice.

The ideal candidate will

possess up to five years relevant experience gained in a Central London or comparable provincial practice. Essential qualities are good communication skills, a sound academic background and the stamina to meet the demands of a City style practice.

The remuneration offered will be very competitive and there are genuine partnership prospects. Please apply with C.V. quoting JH/226 to:

Jacqui Haworth,
13-21 High Street,
Guildford,
Surrey GU1 3DG
Tel: (0483) 574814

John Hamilton Associates
Management & Recruitment Consultants

Commercial Lawyers

We are currently working on behalf of a well respected and established firm of solicitors whose entry into the commercial field over the last decade has been highly successful. As a result of the continued increase in the level of business, it has been decided to appoint two additional Assistant Solicitors.

As growth is expected to continue, these represent exciting opportunities for ambitious individuals to join a practice with major growth plans offering excellent prospects for career development. Salaries are competitive, based on previous background and experience.

Please telephone or write, in complete confidence, to Kate Syms, Simpson Crowden Consultants Ltd., Specialists in Executive Search and Selection, 97/99 Park Street, London W1Y 3HA. Telephone: 01-629 5909.

Corporate Tax

You will be responsible for a wide range of corporate tax work. This is a new role and a significant element of it will be to advise other members of the Commercial Department, particularly in relation to mergers and acquisitions.

You have two to three years' qualified experience within the Corporate Tax Department of a City firm. Alternatively, you are a barrister or accountant with specialist knowledge of this field.

Pensions

The key aspect of your role will be to work closely with the practice's existing pensions specialist, who needs an Assistant Solicitor to deal with the increased workload. Specifically, you will be involved with pension law and corporate and industrial pension schemes.

You are a qualified solicitor with up to three years' experience within the Pensions department of a city firm or currently work as a pensions expert in the industrial sector. High academic ability and a talent for drafting are essential.

Simpson Crowden
CONSULTANTS

ALPS

ACCOUNTANCY & LEGAL PROFESSIONS SELECTION LTD

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 Tel: 01-588 3576 Telex 887374

Scope to become Group Legal and Personnel Director or for career advancement in General Management.

LEGAL MANAGER
AND COMPANY SECRETARY

CAMBRIDGESHIRE RAPIDLY EXPANDING SUBSTANTIAL BRITISH GROUP - VEHICLE FLEET MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL AND SPECIALIST COMPUTER SERVICES.

For this new appointment, the result of on-going and projected expansion, we seek admitted Solicitors or Barristers aged from 26. Post qualification company/commercial experience will have been broad-ranging in either a leading professional firm or the legal department of a substantial international organisation. A well developed commercial outlook, the capacity for problem solving and a desire to broaden one's experience base, together with the ability to relate to the needs of a fast-moving senior management group, are essential. The immediate objective is to establish and equip an effective world-wide legal resource. Early priorities will be a review of existing contractual arrangements and the drafting of a range of new commercial and management agreements. The appointment offers a significant role in overall Group strategy with particular emphasis on acquisitions, company formations and the provision of a comprehensive legal service, involving liaison with external advisors, which will contribute materially to the continued success of this Group. The ability to achieve objectives with the minimum of direction and supervision is essential. Initial salary negotiable £25,000-£30,000 plus performance related incentive, car, contributory pension, life assurance, family medical insurance and assistance with relocation expenses. Applications in strict confidence under reference LMCS 163/TT to the Managing Director.

ACCOUNTANCY & LEGAL PROFESSIONS SELECTION LIMITED, 3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 6PU.
 TELEPHONE 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576, TELEX 887374, FAX: 01-256 8501.

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13 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4BU

require a Solicitor of at least two years post admission experience for their Property Department in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Salary dependent upon experience. Reply with c.v. to:

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Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 9NP.
Telephone (0892) 511633.

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Conveyancing Solicitor/Legal Executive with 3 years admission experience primarily for domestic conveyancing in a small friendly environment. Excellent opportunities for the right applicant. Salary neg.

Please contact Mr. Conrathe of Conrathe on 01-874 0444

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This is a senior position, responsible for a large legal staff, and carries an exceptionally high salary. The work is wide-ranging, including certain key committees, and involves substantial matters of considerable value and political impact. Above all, you will be engaged, along with

top management and the most senior councillors, in pushing through new developments in the way the Council runs its services. This will inevitably present problems. It will require creative thinking, determination, tact, a robust self-confidence, and a certain political acumen. All this, and a strong desire to make things happen.

Candidates should be solicitors or barristers, aged over 30 years. They need not have a background in local government, though it would naturally be an advantage.

For details contact Sonya Rayner or send her a copy of your c.v.

Chambers

Recruitment

74 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET

Tele: 8951182

(01) 606 9371

Fax (01) 600 1793

Consultants

CARTER FABER Banking Lawyer Partnership

My clients are a dynamic medium-sized City practice with a reputation for the provision of high quality legal advice to a respected range of commercial and financial clients in the UK and overseas.

Carter Faber are experiencing rapid growth and now wish to appoint an energetic banking solicitor to establish an independent Banking Department. Applicants should have good relevant experience acquired in a substantial firm and an aptitude for practice development.

The work will include all aspects of banking transactions plus a wide range of interesting related matters. Very

early partnership is intended for the successful applicant. The appointment offers excellent remuneration and benefits. It is an ideal opportunity for an enthusiastic and team spirited solicitor to consolidate and develop his/her career in a practice which is destined to develop rapidly into the 1990s.

Those interested are advised to contact John Hamilton as soon as possible, quoting JH/248 to discuss your suitability.

John Hamilton Associates,
13-21 High Street,
Guildford, Surrey GU1 3DG
Tel: (0483) 574814



John Hamilton Associates
Management and Recruitment Consultants

PARIS COMMERCIAL LAWYER £Excellent + Bens

We have been engaged by one of the foremost electronics groups in the world, based in Paris and with an annual turnover exceeding £5bn, to recruit an additional lawyer for its thriving legal team.

Reporting to the Legal Director, the successful candidate will be expected to assume responsibility for a broad spectrum of duties including drafting/negotiation of sales, purchase, distribution and joint venture agreements, as well as competition law.

Aged late 20s/early 30s, candidates should possess at least 2 years' ppe in commercial law, gained with a multinational organisation or a major commercial practice. Applicants must be willing to undertake travel to overseas subsidiaries, and capable of operating effectively in a high-powered environment offering a great deal of direct contact with senior management. Reasonable fluency in French is essential.

An excellent remuneration package and a stimulating work environment are just two of the many incentives to join an international group which prides itself on rewarding ability and success.

For further details please contact Tim Knight on
(01) 583 0073 (Day) or
(01) 622 6905 (Evenings and Weekends).

Badenoch & Clark, 16-18 New Bridge Street,
London EC4V 6AU.

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Blyth Dutton CONVEYANCER

Our client, a very successful and expanding 19 partner Lincoln's Inn Fields practice, is acknowledged as one of the leading firms in the field of private client work.

The firm wishes to appoint a further 2 - 3 year admitted solicitor, or a suitably experienced legal executive, to undertake residential conveyancing. It can offer a varied workload in a stimulating environment and a highly competitive salary.

For further details contact Alistair Dougall on 01-405 6062 (01-773 3702 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 46 Bedford Row, London WC1N 2BL.

QUARRY

QD

DOUGALL

CONVEYANCER - WEST END

My client is an established medium sized firm in the West End.

The firm now urgently requires an experienced conveyancing solicitor to undertake the full range of commercial and residential property matters including the financing aspects of commercial property transactions.

Applicants should have at least 3 years' relevant post-qualification experience. The salary and benefits will be attractive and there are good partnership prospects.

Please contact Laurence Simons on 01 242 6644 (01 485 1345 evenings/weekends) or write to LAURENCE SIMONS ASSOCIATES, 33 John's Mews, London, WC1N 2NS.

All approaches will be treated in strict confidence.



LAURENCE
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Ambitious Young Lawyers, Raise Your Sights and Target the Westcountry

Continuous expansion is creating vacancies in our Plymouth and Exeter offices for young lawyers who are in need of intellectually challenging work, and who are confident of their ability to contribute significantly to a practice where the pursuit of excellence is all important.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY In particular we are looking for property lawyers with an interest in the tourist and leisure industry, or who have aspirations to develop more generally within the commercial property field.

LITIGATION This substantial department has a number of openings for lawyers with talent, energy, and enthusiasm, who wish to work in a stimulating environment in the areas of professional indemnity, construction law, commercial disputes, or medicolegal/personal injury.

PENSIONS Someone with a good knowledge of the subject, and who is able to use it in a commercially effective manner, would be made very welcome and offered particular facilities to train and develop.

PLANNING In a region of rapid development and industrial growth, our planning team negotiates with government departments and local authorities on all aspects of development. A vacancy now exists for someone with a practical working knowledge of the subject.

PROBATE AND TRUSTS This large department offers a variety of good quality work, and we are seeking lawyers wishing to concentrate in this field.

AGRICULTURE AND LANDED ESTATES We are looking for lawyers with property law and tax planning experience to assist in a fast growing area.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY We believe that technical ability is the first essential, and the use of technology enables the provision of a high quality service at competitive rates. If you share this belief, this is an opportunity to join a friendly, highly motivated and committed conveyancing team.

In addition to an attractive salary package, we offer the added value of a diverse and demanding workload whilst living in an attractive area.

Please contact John Price on 0752 266633, or write to him at the address below.

Bond Pearce, 1 The Crescent, Plymouth PL1 3AE

Bond Pearce is a member of the MS group of independent legal practices.

DEVELOPMENT LAWYER

North of England to £50,000

Our client is one of the leading firms of Commercial Solicitors in the North of England. They are setting up a separate development property unit to handle the requirements of some major retailing and institutional clients.

A mature **COMMERCIAL SOLICITOR** of partnership calibre is now sought, aged 30 - 40, who will be required to control the unit in conjunction with a property portfolio Lawyer and a planning Lawyer. He/she will be experienced in handling negotiations leading to the assembly of sites, the completion of developments and any integral lettings or disposals.

This is an excellent opportunity for a career minded individual who is ambitious and enthusiastic and seeks a move to a firm where hard work, flair and commitment will be suitably rewarded.

For further information telephone **ANTHONY BATES**, quoting reference **88U/525 LSG**, on (0532) 461671 or write to her at **Daniels Bates Partnership Ltd, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, Park Lane, Leeds LS3 1AB**. Your application will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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Young Enthusiastic SOLICITOR/LEGAL EXECUTIVE

required by a commercial property company to deal with litigation, conveyancing and assist a fellow Solicitor with the day to day running of the company.

Salary up to £20,000 pa depending upon experience.

Please write with c.v. to Mr. Z. Szabados, Human Resources Control Limited, 41/42 Chesham Road, London, EC1N 8DU.

CONVEYANCING SOLICITOR REQUIRED

Residential conveyancing solicitor with 2/3 years post qualification experience required by small city firm.

Salary negotiable.

Please send full CV to:
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Barristers, Solicitors,
49 Queen Victoria Street,
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Solicitor

required to handle one substantial extradition case on a continuing basis, initially in UK and thereafter in the Far East. A minimum 2 year contract envisaged.

Apply with CV to Box number M85

PERSONAL SERVICES: An opportunity has arisen in our Company/Commercial Department for an experienced lawyer. The candidate should have: a minimum 5 years' experience in law and suitable broad-based knowledge in Canada and the UK; a working knowledge of French and a willingness to travel; Canadian Governmental experience. The duties will include: identification and development of new sources of business in Canada. Salary will be negotiable according to experience and qualifications. The candidate should be willing to relocate to live near the firm's main office in Milton Keynes. Applicants should send a full CV to: The Staff Partner, Personnel, Legal Services, and Salary Review, Contact Law Personnel, 01-642 1201 (Lancashire office box 242).

CHERYL BRADYMAN Search for senior City lawyers. Salary, Contact Law Personnel, 01-642 1201 (Lancashire office box 242).

SOUTH EAST THAMES REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY LEGAL SERVICES SECTION ASSISTANT HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES - SCALE 23

Commencing Salary: £14373 pa - £18139 pa

Applications are invited for the challenging post in the Regional Health Authority's busy Legal Section which provides a wide range of legal advice and services to the RHA and to the 15 District Health Authorities in the Region.

Applicants should have experience in Health Service Management and/or appropriate legal experience of professional negligence and personal injury claims.

Informal enquiries welcomed. Please contact Mr A P Andrew on 2262.

Application Form/Job Description available from: The Regional Personnel Department, South East Thames Regional Health Authority, Thistle House, Collington Avenue, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN39 3ND. Telephone: (0424) 730073 Ext 2061/2062.

THE REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY HAS ADOPTED A NO SMOKING POLICY.

Ref: 8107

Closing Date: 24 June 1988.

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Please telephone
Robert Campbell or Janet Gilks on
01-686 7461

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A vacancy has arisen for a senior probate assistant (who will be either a solicitor or a legal executive of some years' experience) to report directly to our principal probate partner. The majority of the work is intellectually rewarding and involves large and interesting estates. A propensity for hard work is essential.

We offer an attractive salary (reviewed twice in each year) and other benefits.

Please reply with curriculum vitae to:

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6 New Square, London WC2A 3RP

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Telephone: 0908-690880

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In London and the Provinces contact

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urgently require Assistant (recently admitted or shortly to be admitted) to undertake mainly non-contentious work but some general litigation and advocacy available.

Tel or write with CV to J E Simpson, 6 Bank Street, Worcester WR1 2EW, Tel 0905-726026

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Commercial Litigators A Fresh Challenge...

Our Client, an established thriving West End firm, seek an experienced Solicitor to complement their Litigation Department.

The ideal applicant should have a minimum of 2 years P.Q.E. and the ability to deal with all aspects of Civil Litigation.

The successful appointee will enjoy a friendly working environment with exposure to quality work and to clients.

This appointment offers an interesting and varied workload coupled with a competitive salary. Those seeking to fulfil their career aspirations are asked to contact us in complete confidence.

LEGAL SELECTION

160 New Bond Street,
London W1Y 0HR England
Telephone: 01-493 8515
(24 hour answerphone)
Fax: 01-491 7459

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&
PARTNERS**

Property Lawyers A real Opportunity...

Due to expansion our client, a well established West End Practice, are looking for high calibre lawyers to join their Property Department.

Commercial Property -
The successful applicant will have upwards of 3 years P.Q.E. in Commercial Property Work. A highly competitive salary will be paid for a position which offers excellent career prospects.

Residential/Light Commercial Conveyancer -
An opportunity in this area for a forward looking Solicitor of up to 18 months P.Q.E. who wishes to put his basic experience on a firm foundation. The post will be amply rewarded both financially and professionally.

For more information, contact us in the strictest confidence.

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160 New Bond Street,
London W1Y 0HR England
Telephone: 01-493 8515
(24 hour answerphone)
Fax: 01-491 7459

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WEST END & HOLBORN OFFICE

Looking to move to the City? Seeking a career change within the West End, Holborn, Covent Garden area? If you are interested in the vacancies below, or would like to discuss your prospects within Commerce and Industry or Private Practice, please contact us.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

ENTERTAINMENT LITIGATOR To £45,000
Medium sized practice with an impressive entertainment oriented client base seeks litigator, at least 3 years' qualified or up to salaried partnership level for its expanding litigation department. Whilst specific entertainment-related experience is not essential, candidates must have impressive commercial litigation backgrounds. Leadership qualities, excellent communication skills and commercial awareness are essential attributes for this key position. Immediate partnership prospects.

PROPERTY LAWYERS COVENT GARDEN £Neg a.s.e.
Medium sized fast-developing practice, based in the heart of Covent Garden seeks three property lawyers for its expanding department. Applicants should be either qualified Legal Executives or Solicitors with backgrounds in commercial and/or residential property. Friendly atmosphere, and good prospects.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY WC2 £Competitive
Recently qualified solicitor, or barrister seeking to requalify is sought for the specialist patents and intellectual property department of this expanding practice. Relevant experience is an obvious advantage although candidates with good commercial backgrounds should not be deterred from applying.

1988 QUALIFIERS £18-£20,000
We have vacancies for 1988 Qualifiers throughout the capital in all areas of the law, to include: property (residential and commercial); company and commercial (to include employment, intellectual property and entertainment law); commercial and civil litigation; trusts, tax and probate.

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

CORPORATE LAWYER SW1 £28-£35,000 + Car + Bens
Leading blue-chip plc with diverse operations worldwide has a vacancy for a young Solicitor or Barrister with at least two years' quality company/commercial experience to provide corporate legal advice to senior management as part of a small professional team. Ideal career move into industry.

COMPANY LAWYER MIDDLESEX c.£25,000 + Car + Bens
Major subsidiary of leading chemical and pharmaceutical company has a vacancy for a lawyer to join a busy legal department. Ideal candidates will be aged around 30 years with up to 3 years' commercial ppe. Excellent opportunity to gain in-house experience of quality company/commercial work.

For details of vacancies throughout the capital, please contact Judith Farmer, Robert Drury or Gillian Croft on (01) 583 0073 (day) or (01) 272 2837 (evenings and weekends), 29-31 Oxford Street, London W1R 1RE.

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TELEPHONE: 01-222 4243 (24 hours) OR 01-222 8866



CHARSLEY HARRISON a growing Firm in the Thames Valley aims to keep abreast of technological development and improve its standards of specialisation.

The Firm has 9 Partners and approximately 70 staff located at 6 Offices.

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We will give you encouragement to keep up to date with the law by attendance at appropriate lectures.

In this advertisement we have not mentioned salaries nor set out periods of admission but we anticipate the persons appointed will have between 1 and 10 years post-admission experience.

We will ensure the right Applicants are not disappointed financially. Prospects are unlimited.

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Please contact Phillip Jones at Charsley Harrison, Old Crown, Windsor Road, Slough, Berkshire SL1 2DN giving a full Curriculum Vitae and marking your envelope "Strictly Private".

REMEMBER - your future is our future!

CONTRACT SPECIALIST/ LEGAL ADVISER



An opportunity has arisen for a Solicitor or Barrister who sees contract law, commercial draftsmanship and advice as his/her main strengths in the Legal Department of the Building Employers Confederation.

The successful applicant will join a team of experienced lawyer colleagues in a congenial office advising and representing the various builders and contractors who are members of the Confederation, between them accounting for more than 80% of new construction in the U.K. There will be opportunities to gain experience in specialist areas where skills are particularly valuable, but initially a sound knowledge of contract law and good basic draftsmanship are fundamental requirements.

An excellent salary and conditions are offered. Write with full C.V. marked 'Strictly Personal - Legal Adviser Appointment' to

A J Cleary, Director of Legal Services
Building Employers Confederation,
82 New Cavendish Street,
London W1M 8AD.

Seeking Articles or Qualifying September 1988?

Link Legal Recruitment now have many opportunities for Law Students wishing to commence Articles in the Autumn and for people qualifying in September.

Staffed by consultants who are experts in the field of recruitment, Link can provide in-depth and informed practical advice on your career progression and positions available to you as an individual.

Link would also confirm that working in Britain's second city does not mean second best so, whether seeking Articles, recently qualified, or with experience, make Link one of your better decisions ...

For an informal discussion concerning career options available, contact Susanne Dawson, Link Legal Recruitment, FREEPOST, Phoenix House, 1/3 Newhall Street, Birmingham B3 2BR. Tel 021 233 3403.

LINK

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GKN plc, the major multi-national Group, is seeking to fill a vacancy in its Company Secretarial Department based at its Headquarters in Redditch, Worcestershire.

The successful candidate will be involved in an interesting and wide range of company secretarial duties. A good knowledge of company law, Stock Exchange regulations and secretarial practice is essential. Applicants should be law graduates, preferably with a Chartered Secretary qualification, in their late 20s/early 30s and currently working in a public quoted company.

An attractive starting salary, negotiable according to qualifications and experience, is offered together with relocation assistance if appropriate. The Headquarters are located in modern offices conveniently situated within easy reach of the M5, M6 and M42 motorways and within commuting distance of desirable residential areas such as Solihull, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, Worcester and the Cotswolds.

Applicants should write with full cv including salary, or telephone direct to:

Lesley Butcher,
Group Services Personnel Manager, GKN plc,
PO Box 55, Ipsley House, Ipsley Church Lane,
Redditch, Worcestershire, B99 0TL.
Telephone: (0527) 517715

We are an equal opportunity employer.

INTERNATIONAL LAWYER

International U.S. Motion Picture Distributors seek a US/UK lawyer qualified 3/4 years to join its worldwide legal department in London. A strong commercial and contractual background is necessary to handle a varied workload including a full range of company matters, film acquisitions, distribution contracts, employment law, etc.

Experience in entertainment and copyright law is useful but not essential.

Salary is competitive, company car, other benefits.

Interested applicants should forward their C.V., including current salary, to

Susan Williams, Personnel Officer,
United International Pictures,
45 Beadon Road, Hammersmith W6 0EG.

THREE YEARS FOR FRAUD

Are you a barrister or solicitor who wishes to gain a wide practical experience in the field of commercial fraud? Do you have 5 years post-qualification experience in Commercial Law or a related field? Then you cannot miss the opportunity of taking up a Short Service Contract with the Crown Prosecution Service.

The Crown Prosecution Service is offering to barristers or solicitors with the relevant experience short service contracts for 3 years with the prospect of a terminal bonus of up to 40% of annual salary.

All the posts are located in London where you will be a member of the Fraud Investigation Group specialising in the investigation and conduct of major fraud prosecutions. You will be expected to advise on the merits, feasibility and structure of an investigation and on charges and overseeing the conduct of the prosecution. Directing and co-ordinating a multi-disciplinary team of Police Fraud Squad Officers, Investigative Accountants and other specialists both throughout the United Kingdom and abroad will also be part of your brief.

Successful applicants will, where relevant, receive basic training in accountancy and the use of computers and attend seminars and courses relating to commercial and financial fraud.

Salaries will be on the scale £18,286 to £26,154 plus Inner London Weighting.

For further information and an application form please telephone Mr Thomas Waring on 01 831 3038 Ext 2165.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer.

CPS

CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

Probate

This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of the most prestigious firms of private client solicitors in the UK. Due to increased business, the practice seeks to appoint an Assistant Solicitor in its Tax and Financial Planning Department to specialise in the field of Probate.

The successful applicant will become involved in a diverse range of work, including the administration of estates both in the UK and overseas. There will be breadth, scope and complexity in the role which will appeal to those wishing to work in an intellectually stimulating environment.

Candidates will be newly admitted solicitors or with up to two years' specialist experience in Probate, and will currently be working for a leading private client practice in London or the provinces.

The salary offered will be competitive and will depend upon the level of experience.

Those interested in working with this highly respected practice should telephone or write, in complete confidence, to Kate Syms, **Simpson Crowden Consultants Ltd, Specialists in Executive Search & Selection, 97/99 Park Street, London W1Y 3HA. Telephone: 01-629 5909.**

**Simpson Crowden
CONSULTANTS**

Allied Irish Banks plc Corporate Lawyer

This important position has arisen due to the impending retirement of the Group Legal Adviser. After a transition period, the successful applicant will be responsible for the provision of a complete range of in-house legal professional services to the Group.

The ideal candidate will be a practising lawyer in the 35/50 age group, who currently holds a very senior position in an established law firm and whose expertise embraces all or most of the following legal specialisations - Banking, Companies, International Finance, Securities, Insurance, Intellectual Property, Real Estate, Trusts, Consumer Affairs and Labour Relations. Salary is negotiable and there is an attractive benefits package. Please write - in confidence - to D.M. Hand quoting ref. A.82874.

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

LEGAL RECRUITMENT

£18-£30,000 Package
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Northern Home Counties

As a result of continuing expansion, Badenoch & Clark, the leading independent recruitment specialists, require additional consultants to join the Legal Division in each of its three London offices and in Milton Keynes.

The Division has undergone rapid growth in recent years and enjoys extensive contacts within Private Practice, Commerce & Industry and the Financial Services Sector throughout the UK.

We are particularly keen to hear from Law graduates and/or qualified Solicitors or Barristers, aged 23 to 30, with previous commercial experience — preferably in Sales, Marketing or Recruitment.

Applicants must be committed to a career within recruitment, and demonstrate the confidence and communication skills required to deal with candidates and clients at all levels.

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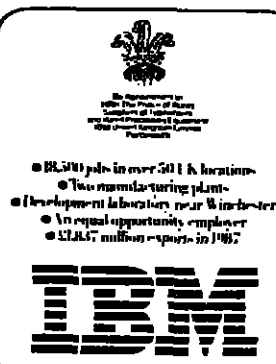
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In the last decade many areas around London have undergone radical changes; the increasing tendency for companies to establish their head offices outside London, but within easy reach of its facilities, has generated opportunities in all areas of specialisation in towns throughout the Home Counties.

For local solicitors this has often meant a fundamental change in the nature of their practices, in many cases enabling them to offer a similar client base, quality of work and salary level to central London firms. The larger firms can also offer a high standard of backup facilities combined with the quality of life that is

associated with living and working outside London. Whether you are currently commuting into the City or are already working locally, if you feel you could benefit from our market knowledge and experience we would be delighted to talk to you about what the Home Counties

have to offer. If you would like to find out more about these specific opportunities or would simply like an informal discussion – without obligation – about your career, please contact Chris Wilson or Deborah Kirkman on 01-831 2000 (01-531 0693 evenings and weekends).

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TENNIS: CASH TAKES SWIFT ROUTE TO FIRST-ROUND VICTORY WITH CRISP STROKE-PLAY

Cash adjusts to his grass-court skills with perfect timing

By Richard Evans

It would have been hard for a Wimbledon champion, returning to grass courts in preparation for the defence of his crown, to have looked more impressive than Pat Cash did in the first round of the Stella Artois championships at the Queen's Club yesterday.

Cash defeated Pieter Aldrich, a South African who played No. 1 for the University of Miami team, 6-0, 6-1. After Cash had won the first nine games, someone in the Press-box asked when a player last won a match without losing a game. But Aldrich, finally finding some sort of rhythm, saved us the trouble of stretching our memories all the way back to last Saturday in Paris and not only held serve but reached two break points when the No. 2 seed served for the match.

However, Cash, typifying the confidence that has flowed back through his game after a total of only five hours practice since returning from the trenches in France, came up with two aces and that was that.

"I was surprised how quickly I found a rhythm," Cash said. "It all worked better than I expected but maybe all that play on clay will help in the long run. It certainly feels better than it did last year."

There was a crispness and a fluency about Cash's stroke-play that was unusual for anyone playing his first match on grass in 11 months and the manner of his victory provided a perfect welcome for Mr and Mrs Cash who had stepped off a plane from Australia three hours before, quite unaware that their son was due on court.

"We had no idea," Patrick Cash said as he acquainted himself with his second grandchild, born in Oslo two months ago. Little Mia, impervious to the sight of Malcolm Marshall hurtling at her out of the television set two feet away, gurgled happily in grand-daddy's arms during a family reunion in the players lounge.

If the scene suggested domesticity, then it was apt.

Cash, who jogs here from his home in Fulham, regards Queen's as his local club and would love to win the title as a nice confidence booster for Wimbledon. Unless the top seed, Stefan Edberg, and Boris Becker, who is in the Australian's half, have something very serious to say about it, Cash, on this early showing, could get his wish.

David Feige, one of the British wild cards, had a good straight-sets win over the Frenchman, Gerome Potier, but Nick Fullwood was never consistent enough against the Australian left-hander, Brod Dyke. Steve Shaw, short of practice after a foot injury, served badly against the Bahamian, Roger Smith, and went down 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 after a bright opening.

RESULTS: First round: 1. Pat Cash (Aus) 6-0, 6-1; 2. S. Edberg (Swe) 6-0, 6-1; 3. B. Becker (Ger) 6-0, 6-1; 4. D. Feige (GB) 6-0, 6-1; 5. N. Fullwood (Aus) 6-0, 6-1; 6. S. Shaw (GB) 3-6, 6-2, 6-4; 7. R. Smith (Bah) 6-2, 6-4, 3-6; 8. P. Potier (Fra) 6-0, 6-1; 9. M. Marshall (Aus) 6-0, 6-1; 10. G. Potier (Fra) 6-0, 6-1; 11. S. Edberg (Swe) 6-0, 6-1; 12. B. Becker (Ger) 6-0, 6-1; 13. D. Feige (GB) 6-0, 6-1; 14. N. Fullwood (Aus) 6-0, 6-1; 15. S. Shaw (GB) 3-6, 6-2, 6-4; 16. R. Smith (Bah) 6-2, 6-4, 3-6; 17. P. Potier (Fra) 6-0, 6-1; 18. M. Marshall (Aus) 6-0, 6-1; 19. G. Potier (Fra) 6-0, 6-1; 20. S. Edberg (Swe) 6-0, 6-1; 21. B. Becker (Ger) 6-0, 6-1; 22. D. Feige (GB) 6-0, 6-1; 23. N. Fullwood (Aus) 6-0, 6-1; 24. S. Shaw (GB) 3-6, 6-2, 6-4; 25. R. Smith (Bah) 6-2, 6-4, 3-6; 26. P. Potier (Fra) 6-0, 6-1; 27. M. Marshall (Aus) 6-0, 6-1; 28. G. Potier (Fra) 6-0, 6-1; 29. S. Edberg (Swe) 6-0, 6-1; 30. B. Becker (Ger) 6-0, 6-1; 31. D. Feige (GB) 6-0, 6-1; 32. N. Fullwood (Aus) 6-0, 6-1; 33. 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England left to play for survival

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

TRENT BRIDGE: England, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, need 136 to avoid an innings defeat by West Indies.

Given a large measure of batting devotion and a fair share of luck, England may still avoid defeat in the first Cornhill Test today. That, however, is all they can hope to do; survival is the limit of their ambitions after a day on which they resumed the sadly familiar role of subservience to their West Indian dictators.

On and off the field it was a fraught day for Mike Gatting on his 31st birthday, and he is now certain to arrive at Lord's for next week's second Test with his job at risk. Some may regard this as unfair, and point to the recent 3-0 victory in the Texaco Trophy one-day series. The selectors, however, will be obliged to take more account of the fact that Gatting will by then have overseen 14 Tests without a win, a new and unenviable record for an England captain.

Other factors will also be influential. Gatting's handling of bowlers had become more positive and intelligent over recent months. But his leadership in this game has sometimes baffled. There is, too, the increasingly tiresome matter of his forthcoming autobiography, a book which, in his present predicament, has all the virtues of a banana skin.

A chapter of the book, due out at the end of this month, deals with the tempestuous Pakistan tour late last year. The Test and County Cricket Board applied to Gatting permission to comment on the tour; the captain, agreed by Gatting and his publishers but apparently not by the Board, is that the chapter will appear under the name of the co-author though still, obviously, amplifying Gatting's personal thoughts.

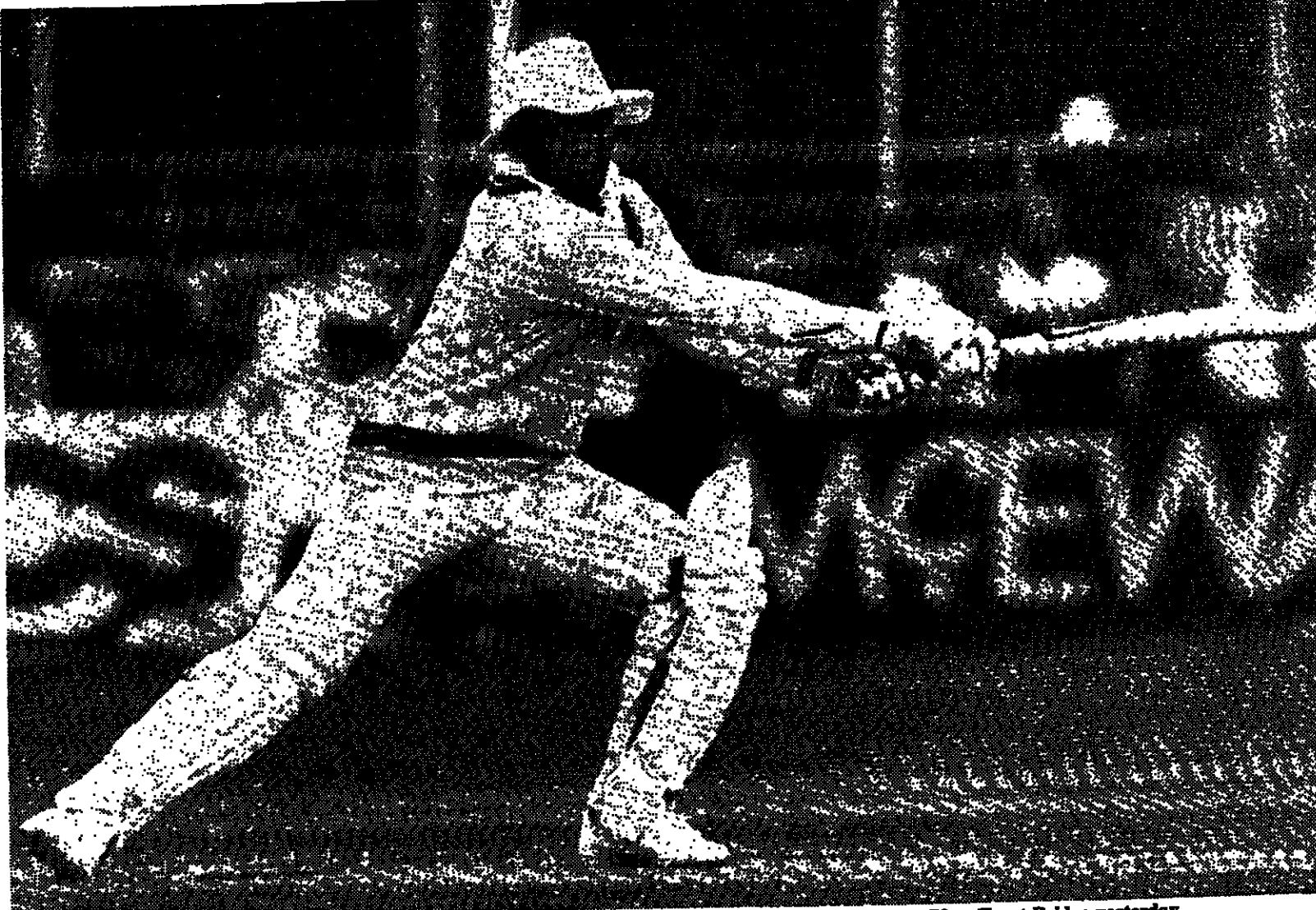
He is apparently determined to have his say on an issue which still ripples with him. But he should now bear in mind that the consequences may not end with a slap on the wrist. Alan Smith, the TCCB's chief executive, confirmed here yesterday that he plans to meet Gatting on Thursday to discuss the subject. The board's lawyers have not yet completed their inquiries and it may be that Gatting is not strictly in breach of his contract. He is, however, not exactly making his public utterances from a position of strength.

Richards, Gatting's opposite number, began yesterday seeking another 150 runs for a potentially winning position. He was pleasantly surprised. Chiefly due to staunch and sometimes spectacular batting, the West Indies added 184 and gave their captain the luxury of a declaration shortly after tea.

In diverse ways, Hooper, Marshall and Ambrose all batted admirably, but their progress was aided rather than inhibited by some odd desultory English cricket. From very early in the day Gatting gave the inescapable impression that he felt the match was out of his control and that his most sensible course was to sit back, slow things down and hope.

Even this attitude cannot fully explain why Dilley, who bowled only three balls all day on Saturday, toiled through 20 overs and three balls yesterday while Jarvis, whose temperament under attack was so impressive on day three, hardly got a look-in. Pringle was rightly entrusted with a large measure of the bowling; his control has seldom faltered.

A second experiment with Emburey, however, proved almost as disastrous as the first. There was now no Richards to flog his off-spin to all



Making strides: Marshall adding to his outstanding bowling performance with a flamboyant 72 at Trent Bridge yesterday

parts, but Marshall, hugely enjoying himself with the bat, proved a worthy deputy after Emburey had retrieved a little of his self respect with a series of maidens to Ambrose. Marshall drove successive fours over mid-wicket and long-off, so inspiring the previously strokeless Ambrose that he ventured a straight six off the suffering spinner three overs later.

Marshall and Ambrose put on 91 for the eighth wicket, only eight runs short of the West Indies' record against England. It was the most frustrating part of the game for England as, having removed the lordly Hooper at 334, they must have hoped for a deficit of barely more than 100. By this stage the fielding was not what it might have been and Ambrose, in a curious innings,

was dropped by both Downton and DeFreitas. Marshall was a belated victim of Emburey as he danced down the pitch, but Richards, perhaps sensing England's mood, batted on after tea to turn the screw, declaring only when Ambrose was run out in challenging Gooch's arm from mid-on.

England set off needing 204 to avoid an innings defeat and, on the evidence of their first effort, hoping that the openers could provide at least half of them. Broad, though, was never at his best, taking his eye off the ball whenever it was dropped short and eventually, after an unhappy stay, flicking diffidently outside off stump against Ambrose.

Gooch had his alarms, especially against Walsh and Marshall, who are moving the ball appreciably off the pitch. The bounce, too, remains variable. England will need their luck to get through today, but Marshall, their most formidable foe, will also need to apply caution, after his second warning of the game for following through on the pitch. Without him, the West Indies' attack would not be the same.

SCOREBOARD FROM TRENT BRIDGE

England won toss

ENGLAND

First Innings: 245 (G A Gooch 73, B C Broad 54; M D Marshall 6-69, C E L Ambrose 4-53).

Second Innings

	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80	82	84	86	88	90	92	94	96	98	100
G A Gooch not out	38	-	3	133	9																											
B C Broad c Dujon b Ambrose	16	-	2	81	5																											
M D Marshall c Gooch b DeFreitas	8	-	-	50	3																											
Extras (D 4, nb 1)	5																															
Total (1 wkts)	67																															

D I Gower, A J Lamb, D R Pringle, P R Downton, J E Emburey, P A J DeFreitas, P W Jarvis and G R Dilley to bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35.

WEST INDIES

First Innings

	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
C G Greenidge c Downton b Jarvis	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
D L Haynes c Downton b Jarvis	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95
R B Richardson c Gatting b Emburey	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115
V A Richards c Gooch b DeFreitas	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	
C L Hooper c Downton b DeFreitas	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	
A L Logie c Gooch b Pringle	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	
M D Marshall b Emburey	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	
C E Ambrose run out (Gooch)	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	
C A Walsh not out	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	
Extras (D 8, nb 14)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		
Total (8 wkts dec, 123.1 overs)	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	

B P Patterson did not bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-54, 2-84, 3-159, 4-231, 5-271, 6-309, 7-334, 8-425, 9-448. BOWLING: Dilley 34-5-101-1 (nb 6); DeFreitas 27-5-93-2 (nb 9); Jarvis 18-1-1-83-2; Pringle 34-11-82-1 (nb 1); Emburey 16-4-85-2.

Umpires: H D Bird and J Birkenshaw. Today: 11.0-8.0.

Anchor man adrift in a trough

By Andrew Longmore

Whatever England manage to salvage from their final day of toil against the West Indies, the sight of their No. 1 off spinner being dispatched with monotonous regularity into the Trent Bridge stands has not been a pretty one.

Generally, the spinner was the one position England could count on for their superiority; Emburey (53 Tests, 126 wickets) v Harper (20 Tests, 40 wickets) or Hooper (six Tests, five wickets) seemed something of a no-contest. But Emburey has taken just 12 wickets in his last 11 Tests and the West Indian assault

will not have done much for his confidence.

To be destroyed by Viv Richards is just one of those things all bowlers, and spinners in particular, have to accept. But yesterday Marshall, no mean batsman but no Richards either, continued where his captain left off, hitting two successive sixes and bringing up his 50 and the 400 at the same time. Even Ambrose, albeit with a less cultured heave, joined in the fun. At the end of it all Emburey was left nursing figures of 16-4-95-2. In effect, that is 95 runs off 12 overs.

Even if he is not taking wickets, Emburey, with his

mean flight and subtle changes of pace, has been the anchor in England's bowling attack. He can tie batsmen down, frustrate them and get wickets for others. The West Indies, it seems, are determined not to let that happen. Richards's assault on Saturday was calculated. Marshall's rather more impromptu, though the result was still the same. But Micky Stewart, the England manager, was not prepared to admit long-term damage.

"He got a wicket early on, which was encouraging, and even after Saturday he wanted to bowl again today. It's like riding a horse: if you fall off

you want to get back on again as soon as possible", he said.

The problem is: what happens if you fall off again? "He's too experienced to get worried about it," Stewart added. "I don't see it as a battle lost, he's been bowling very well in one-day cricket. He came on at the right time today and he did get them to hit the ball in the air. It just happened to go for six."

With a nought and a dropped catch to his name, this has been a wretched match so far for the amiable England spinner. Emburey and his country must hope that it is only a temporary trough.

Benn slips into TV overdrive

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Nigel Benn is building up his portfolio for the American market, especially as after his second-round demolition of Tim Williams 10 days ago at the Albert Hall, American television is calling for more.

He could be facing Jorge Amparo, a Las Vegas crowd-pleaser from the Dominican Republic, on the Barry McGuigan bill at Luton Town Football Club on June 25.

Amparo, a Continental Americas champion, could have been boxing Thomas Hearns for the world title last night instead of Iran Barkley. A year ago the tough Latin American was unlucky not to get the decision against Barkley.

Two other opponents are also being examined by Frank Warren. Benn's manager, Dwight Davidson and Earl Hargrove, but they would not provide the kind of opposition that could be expected from Amparo.

"We'll go for Davidson or Amparo," Warren said yesterday. Benn said: "I have no particular preference although Davidson is the best known."

Herol Graham, who challenges for the vacant British title tomorrow at Sheffield, is throwing out challenges to Benn. However, Warren said: "It's a fight I would like to put on because Benn would knock Graham out but I can't see it going on. Benn's making good money as it is."

One could believe it as Benn drove away in his white BMW with the bulging bonnet.

Davey Moore autopsy report

Holmdel, New Jersey (Agencies) — Davey Moore, the former World Boxing Association light-middleweight champion, who died last Friday after being crushed by his own car, died of asphyxiation, according to an autopsy report.

Beasant ready to join Newcastle

By Dennis Signy

Dave Beasant, the Wimbledon captain, who saved a penalty in the 1-0 FA Cup final win against Liverpool, will sign for Newcastle United later this week in a £750,000 transfer.

Last month Beasant became the first goalkeeper to captain a side at Wembley. Afterwards he announced that he would prefer a move to a larger club, to try to improve his chances of international recognition, and would not be re-signing when his present contract expired at the end of next season.

The fee equals the British record for a goalkeeper established recently when Jim Leighton moved to Manchester United from Aberdeen. Newcastle will recoup more than half the money by the sale of Paul Goddard.

Jim Smith, the Queen's

Park Rangers manager, has offered £400,000 for Goddard, who wants to return South, but this does not match Newcastle's valuation. Smith also awaits the return from holiday this week of Graham Rix, who has been given a free transfer by Arsenal.

Wimbledon will be definite nominees for the European Cup Winners' Cup if the ban on English clubs is lifted. The Football Association yesterday dismissed suggestions that they had already told the club's chairman, Sam Hammam, that his team would not be invited to take part. The FA, though unofficially believing that English clubs will not be readmitted to the three European club competitions, are keeping their options open until UEFA decides — on June 24 — whether the ban stays.

Dutch are feared by Robson

By Dennis Signy

The England manager, Bobby Robson, yesterday cited The Netherlands, West Germany and Italy as the main threats in the European championship, which starts in West Germany on Friday.

The Dutch will be England's second opponents and both countries are favoured to qualify for the semi-finals. Robson expects West Germany and Italy to emerge from the other group. "I do like Holland, they are a good side," he said. "Germany will be hard to beat. They are not playing that well but you just wonder whether they will improve once the competition starts. They have home advantage, while Italy will be difficult to beat as well."

Robson plans to travel to Düsseldorf to watch the opening game between West Germany and Italy.

Frenchmen in S Africa tour

Thirteen French Rugby Union players arrived in South Africa on Sunday, amid great secrecy and in defiance of the anti-apartheid ban on international sporting contact with the Republic.

According to Danie Craven, the president of the South African Rugby Board (SARB), the players, mainly of good club standard, are to be followed by more overseas players. Together, they will form a European XV which will play in a series of matches to celebrate the tercentenary of the arrival in South Africa of the first Huguenot refugees.

The Frenchmen slipped into Cape Town's D F Malan airport on a visit organized in such secrecy that the players did not even bring rugby kit with them, according to the Cape Town newspaper, *Die Burger*.

The three-week tour by the Europeans is seen as an encouraging sign by those who

want a World XV made up of leading players from Australia, New Zealand, France and the British Isles, to play in an unofficial international series against the Springboks.

The national governing bodies which have been sent invitations by SARB to send players for that series, however, have so far lent no support to such a tour, and yesterday Craven denied that the French were a vanguard for the World XV. But he said it was a hopeful sign that the French players had not been stopped by their Government from travelling to South Africa.

The visit is likely to anger French Rugby Union authorities. Albert Ferrasse, president of the French rugby federation, said last week that no French player would be permitted to join the World XV tour.

At a Press conference in Cape Town, Craven said that SARB was still engaged in

negotiations to get more players and rugby officials from other European countries to join the 13 Frenchmen, who were invited here as individuals by Western Province clubs.

The tour starts tonight in Franschhoek (which means "French Corner") in the Cape wine country, where the first Huguenots settled. They will play against a Huguenot XV drawn from local club players. There will be two other matches in the Cape, one in Natal and one in Transvaal.

FRENCH PARTY: Forwards: A Malo (Toulon), A Tardieu (Toulon), P Pélissier (Toulon), A Rame (Bayonne), J-M Pignaud (Toulon), P Vincent (Bayonne), J-L Sarrat (Bayonne), J-L Sautou (Lourdes), P Ruz (Mazamet), Backs: L Pardo (Bayonne), R Vacheron (Toulon), G Garguier (Toulon), M Monsarrat (St Gaudens).

ITINERARY: June 7: Huguenot Invitational XV (Franschhoek); June 10: Western Province Defence Force Invitational XV (Stellenbosch); June 15: South Western Districts Invitational XV (Oudtshoorn); June 18: Natal Invitational XV (Durban); June 20: South African Defence Force Invitational XV (Kempston Park); June 25: Northern Transvaal Invitational XV (Pretoria).

Warren wants to build an athletics stadium

By John Goodbody

A consortium led by Frank Warren, the boxing promoter, is seeking planning permission from Tower Hamlets Borough Council to build an 8,000-seater athletics stadium in East London.

A Council committee is expected to decide within a month whether to accept the consortium's proposal for a luxury stadium, which would also be used regularly for athletics training, or to opt for other schemes. These include one from the National Greyhound Racing Club for two small stadiums — for athletics and for greyhounds — on the 42-acre site and also a plan for the renovation of the old stadium, which occupies about eight acres in Mile End.

Warren said yesterday: "We are keeping our fingers crossed at the moment. I believe that Crystal Palace is too far out whereas Mile End is virtually in Central London."

It is also very easy to reach, with perfectly adequate tube, buses and roads."

Warren, who has been involved heavily in the future plans of the Docklands Indoor Arena, says that his proposal is specifically for an athletics stadium, although there is an option for it to incorporate a greyhound track.

The consortium has consisted of Warren's own company, Loxway, and also Tador Grange Holdings, which has been responsible for various large developments in Docklands. Two people who have advised the consortium are John Caine, a former British international long-distance runner, and John Hockley, the agent of several figures in athletics, including Steve Cram. Hockey is also a director of "Rex Williams", another of Warren's companies.

Dunlop races to a record sixth victory

The former world champion, Joey Dunlop, set an Isle of Man TT record yesterday when he became the first to win an event for six years in succession.

And on his way to victory in his sixth Formula One race he set an absolute lap record for the course in 19min 5.8sec (118.54mph) — 9.5sec inside the record he set in 1984.

Mick Boddice, aged 39, from Kidderminster, in Worcestershire, won the second leg of the sidecar TT. RESULTS: Isle of Man International Formula One TT (226 miles), 750cc: 1, J Dunlop (Honda), 1hr 56min 50.2sec (118.54mph) — record; 2, N Jeffries (Honda), 1:57:56.2 (115.13); 3, R Burnett (Honda), 2:00:5.8 (113.09). Side of Man International Sidecar TT (112 miles): 1, B Boddice/C Birt (Yamaha), 1hr 37min 47.4sec (106.46 mph); 2, J Burton/P Cusack (Yamaha), 1:40:4.1 (105.53); 3, K Howley/S Pomar (Yamaha), 1:43:5.8 (105.13).

● The course claimed its fourth victim this year when Stephen Hall, aged 21, died shortly before the end of his race on Sunday, police said.

END COLUMN